



LADY MOON

How the Old Bags found their niche

Julia Llewellyn Smith, page 16



FIRST CLASS XI

Last opportunity to make your choice

Rules and coupon, page 6



BERNARD LEVIN

Making a drama out of the critics' views

Panning the reviewers, page 18

30P

THE TIMES

No. 64,926

TUESDAY APRIL 12 1994

Bombs destroy armoured vehicles

Serbs halted as Rose calls in jets again

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE, JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

NATO jets bombed Bosnian Serb forces for the second day yesterday as Serb gunners renewed their attack on the Muslim "safe haven" of Gorazde. A tank and two personnel carriers were destroyed, halting an armoured advance on the town, after the British UN commander called for air support.

Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose had turned to NATO again as the Serbs ignored Sunday's air strikes and carried on pounding the town with artillery and tank shells. UN protection force chiefs repeatedly warned Serb commanders to cease firing and NATO warplanes buzzed Serb positions, but the bombardment continued and by the time the American F15 jets struck at about 2.15 pm, eight shells a minute were landing on targets in Gorazde.

Within an hour and a half of the attack, the Serb gunfire had abated and senior UN officials said last night: "It is now calm, with sporadic shelling well outside the city."

The official rejected reports from fellow UN workers in Sarajevo that the firing had intensified after the NATO raid. "The firing slowed down, picked up briefly once again and then stopped," he said. A Sarajevo radio reporter said that attack had prevented a Serb tank column breaking through Gorazde defence lines. "The tanks were on the eastern entrance and NATO intervention saved the town," he said. "They destroyed two armoured personnel carriers and a tank. There were five

more tanks and a lot of infantry, supported by mortars and artillery fire."

The NATO attack was swiftly condemned by Russia, which complained that it had not been consulted, and the Serbs broke off relations with UNPROFOR, cancelling a meeting between Radovan Karadzic and the American envoy Charles Redman. But President Clinton, John Major and the leaders of the UN and NATO all insisted that the raid had been fully justified under existing UN resolutions to protect designated safe havens. Mr Clinton and his Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, made clear that NATO would not hesitate to strike again if necessary to protect its forces.

As President Yeltsin protested to Mr Clinton, Andrei Kozyrev, the Russian Foreign Minister, gave a warning that the West was in danger of escalating "this war," saying: "The world could be dragged into an extremely dangerous series of exchanges of strikes. Air strikes could bring not an end to war, but its escalation."

The Russian ambassador to the UN also protested about the lack of consultation when he told the security council yesterday that his country wanted the UN to take over Gorazde and to disarm the Muslims. But he was given an unsympathetic hearing by fellow council members, who agreed that the correct procedure had been followed.

In Pale, headquarters of the Bosnian Serb leadership, the Russian envoy Vitaly Chur-

kin said: "Things went terribly wrong in Gorazde. We are very much concerned that we may be on a slippery slope in terms of international involvement in the fighting."

Mr Churkin later met the Serbian president, Slobodan Milosevic, who reacted with fury to the air raids. "By intervening with its air force, the UN has undoubtedly taken part in the civil war on the side of the Muslims," he said. The Muslims had exploited Gorazde's safe haven status as a bridgehead for an offensive against the Serb positions.

A cabinet meeting in the Serb-dominated rump Yugoslavia also accused the UN of warmongering, saying: "Only when the Muslim military spring offensive was defeated did the UN remember that Gorazde was a protected zone and called on NATO bombers to act against the Serb side."

The deputy Prime Minister was sent to Pale and Serb leaders were said last night to be reviewing their approach. A senior source close to Mr Milosevic noted that British troops had guided in the air raids from within Gorazde. "This means that they participated in the aggression on the Serbian people, so we will bear this in mind. We will no longer have the confidence in the British soldiers that we had," British troops with the UN in Bosnia-Herzegovina were last night on red alert in case they became a target.

Yeltsin anger, page 14
Lawrence Freedman, page 18
Leading article, page 19



Vladimir Zhirinovskiy hurling a plant yesterday from the Russian consulate in Strasbourg at student protesters

Zhirinovskiy attacks Jewish students

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE French government came under strong pressure last night to expel Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, the extremist Russian nationalist leader, after he spat, shouted abuse and threw plants and gravel at Jewish students protesting over his visit to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

Mr Zhirinovskiy screamed in French at about 100 demonstrators in Strasbourg: "I'll break your heads." He spat in the faces of some of them and threw earth from the gardens of the Russian consulate. His behaviour is a clear violation of the terms on which he was granted a visa to France. He was ordered not to make inflammatory remarks, and the expected outcry may force the French to expel him.

There is a strong suspicion that this is exactly what Mr Zhirinovskiy is hoping for, to strengthen his appeal to nationalists at home.

Mr Zhirinovskiy also called on Russia to bomb NATO bases in Italy in retaliation for the Gorazde air strikes.

Lib Dems may outdo Tories in Euro poll

BY PETER RUSSELL
AND PHILIP WEBSTER

THE Tory Party may have fewer seats than the Liberal Democrats after the June 9 elections for the European Parliament, the most critical test of John Major's leadership since the last general election in 1992.

Labour is likely to be the runaway winner of the election, possibly capturing three-quarters of the seats, according to MORI's latest analysis for THE TIMES of its aggregate political polls for the first quarter of the year.

It is an alarming prospect for Mr Major, who yesterday put himself at the forefront of his party's campaign for the local elections on May 5.

On a visit to Birmingham, one of the main political battlegrounds, he voiced confidence about his own future. But the MORI poll is bad news for Mr Major and his advisers, however much they try to discount the likelihood of big losses on June 9.

Such an outcome, particularly if the Liberal Democrats won more seats than the Tories, would frighten Tory MPs and trigger another, perhaps fatal, wave of leadership speculation.

The latest polls suggest that Labour may win 66 of the 54 seats, capturing several Tory strongholds in the Home Counties and East Anglia. If national poll trends are repeated across the country on June 9, the Tories may win 15 seats and the Liberal Democrats three in the far South West.

There have, however, been big regional variations, with the Liberal Democrats concentrating much of their improvement in the South and West. If the regional change in votes since the 1992 election is taken into account, the Tories could win only eight seats, behind Continued on page 2, col 5

Poll details, page 4
Tony Travers, page 18
Leading article, page 19

Howard gets tough on video access

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND ALEXANDRA FREAN

HARSH penalties for shops which distribute unsuitable videos to children are to be unveiled by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, today in a last minute attempt to avert a defeat for the Government on the day the Commons returns after the Easter recess.

The Home Secretary is also expected to announce agreement with the British Board of Film Classification for some tightening of the rules surrounding the granting of certificates to violent videos, after talks yesterday with James Ferman, the board's director. The board is expected to make greater use of its powers to ban violent videos and to insist on cuts before they are granted

Ark Royal is terror target

A left-wing Greek terrorist group failed in an attempt to attack the aircraft carrier HMS Ark Royal in Piraeus harbour. After the carrier left the port yesterday, two rockets and plastic limping tubes were found in a disused timber warehouse. A caller claiming to represent the group told a radio station that a poor electronic connection was probably the cause of the failure of the ignition device. British companies and educational institutions in Greece have been told to increase security. Page 10

US rugby women beat Swedes 110-0

The women's world rugby union championship, which is being held in Scotland, opened yesterday with the United States, the holders, thrashing Sweden 110-0 at Galashields, England, the joint favourites, also started impressively, by beating Russia 66-0. Both sides provided a feast of handling skills to get the tournament off to a flying start. Page 44

Breast cancer surgery risk 'higher in some hospitals'

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

DEATHS of breast cancer patients after surgery are six times higher for some hospitals than others but the reasons are not being investigated because hospital managers fear confrontation with doctors, a leading health service researcher said yesterday.

Surgeons who operate on at least 50 breast cancer patients a year have better skills and lower complication rates than those who operate on only a few. GPs and health authority purchasers, however, have no way of finding out how many operations surgeons perform, John Yates of the University of Birmingham, an expert on hospital performance and former adviser to the health department, said.

Five surgical teams from different hospitals who had performed 449 breast cancer operations had a death rate of 3.3 per cent compared with five teams who had performed only 24 operations and had a death rate of 21 per cent. "Some surgeons are averaging only five breast cancer patients a year. What do they think it is a hobby?" Mr Yates asked.

Speaking at a conference on league tables for health care organised by the Royal Society of Medicine, Mr Yates, director of Inter-Authority Comparisons and Consultancy, an NHS-run management consultancy, said information which allowed the performance of hospitals and surgeons to be compared had been available for 30 years but had never been used. His own study of 128 surgical teams, one in ten of those in England, had found death rates following all types of surgery varying from 1 per cent to more than 6 per cent.

"I am not prepared to let my wife and family be treated by a surgeon whose results are uncertain but look dicey," Mr Yates said.

The confidential enquiry into peri-operative deaths set up to monitor surgical standards in the mid-1980s was inadequate, he said, because it was voluntary and only a quarter of surgeons co-operated with it.

Publication of a league table of health authority death rates obtained by THE TIMES a year ago has provoked a wide debate about their value. John Spiers, chairman of Brighton NHS trust, told the conference they were an essential tool for improving quality and implementing change, but Mr Yates said that publication would aggravate medical staff and hinder change.

□ A naturally-occurring chemical found in broccoli has been found in American tests to cut breast cancer in rats.

The findings appear to confirm previous research which showed that a diet rich in vegetables such as broccoli, Brussels sprouts and cabbage lower the risk of some kinds of cancer.

Body and Mind, page 17

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Arts	37-39
Birds, marriages, deaths	20
Business	23-28, 30-31
Chess	7-44
Court and Social	20
Law	33-35
Leading articles	19
Letters	19
Obituaries	21
Sport	40-42, 44
TV & Radio	43

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Aspinall chimpanzee maims volunteer zoo keeper

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A VOLUNTEER zoo worker was maimed yesterday by a chimpanzee that ripped off a child's arm five years ago. Angelica Todd, 25, had her thumb and finger bitten off while she was feeding Bustah, a 33-year-old chimpanzee, at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park founded by the millionaire casino owner John Aspinall in 1973.

Miss Todd, an experienced former employee of the zoo near Folkestone who is now a zoology student, is being treated at a hospital in East Grinstead, West Sussex, which specialises in micro-surgery. After a request by her parents, the hospital refused to disclose her condition or discuss whether attempts were made to reattach the thumb and index finger to her right hand.

The wild animal park, which is licensed under the 1981 Zoo Licensing Act, has been inspected in the past 12 months by the Environment Department. The two zoos in Kent owned by Mr Aspinall have been dogged by a series of attacks by animals on visitors and keepers, casting a shadow over the zoo's philosophy of treating captive animals, in Mr Aspinall's words, as "honoured guests". Some think the animal-friendly ethos has led to a too relaxed approach. A young woman was attacked by wolves at Port Lympne in 1977 after entering a cage without permission. In 1980 a tigress killed two keepers at Howlets zoo, near Canterbury. Four years later a young keeper at Port Lympne was crushed to death by an elephant. Last August Louise Aspinall, the owner's daughter-in-law, was bitten by a tiger cub.

Five years ago Matthew McDaid, aged 20, of New Eltham, south London, lost his left arm when he put it through the bars of Bustah's cage to stroke him after getting into a private area of the zoo.

Mike Lockyer, the zoological director at Port Lympne, said that Bustah was not to blame would not be put down. The chimpanzee is due to be exported to a wildlife centre at Kraaifontein, South Africa, in the next few days to spend the rest of his life in retirement.

Mr Lockyer said that male chimpanzees of Bustah's age were considered to be dangerous. "They have got to be treated with great care and respect."

The RSPCA said: "Chimps are deceiving. They are very very strong, and are capable of tearing flesh and pulling off limbs. People tend to think of chimps as cuddly little creatures in television tea adverts."

Appeal by broker in Iran arms fraud case

By Christopher Elliott and Linda Mack

A FORMER Lloyd's insurance broker begins a High Court battle this morning to clear his name after his conviction in 1988 over an alleged £18 million fraud involving the sale of 5,000 TOW missiles to Iran.

William Harper, who was also a Territorial Army major, is seeking leave to appeal against his conviction for issuing certificates of insurance verifying the existence of missiles the prosecution claimed were bogus.

He was one of three men convicted. Two others were acquitted in a trial which has parallels with the Matrix Churchill case in that one of the two, Mr John Taylor, a businessman and arms dealer, was an MI6 agent.

The judge was told but this information was withheld from the jury.

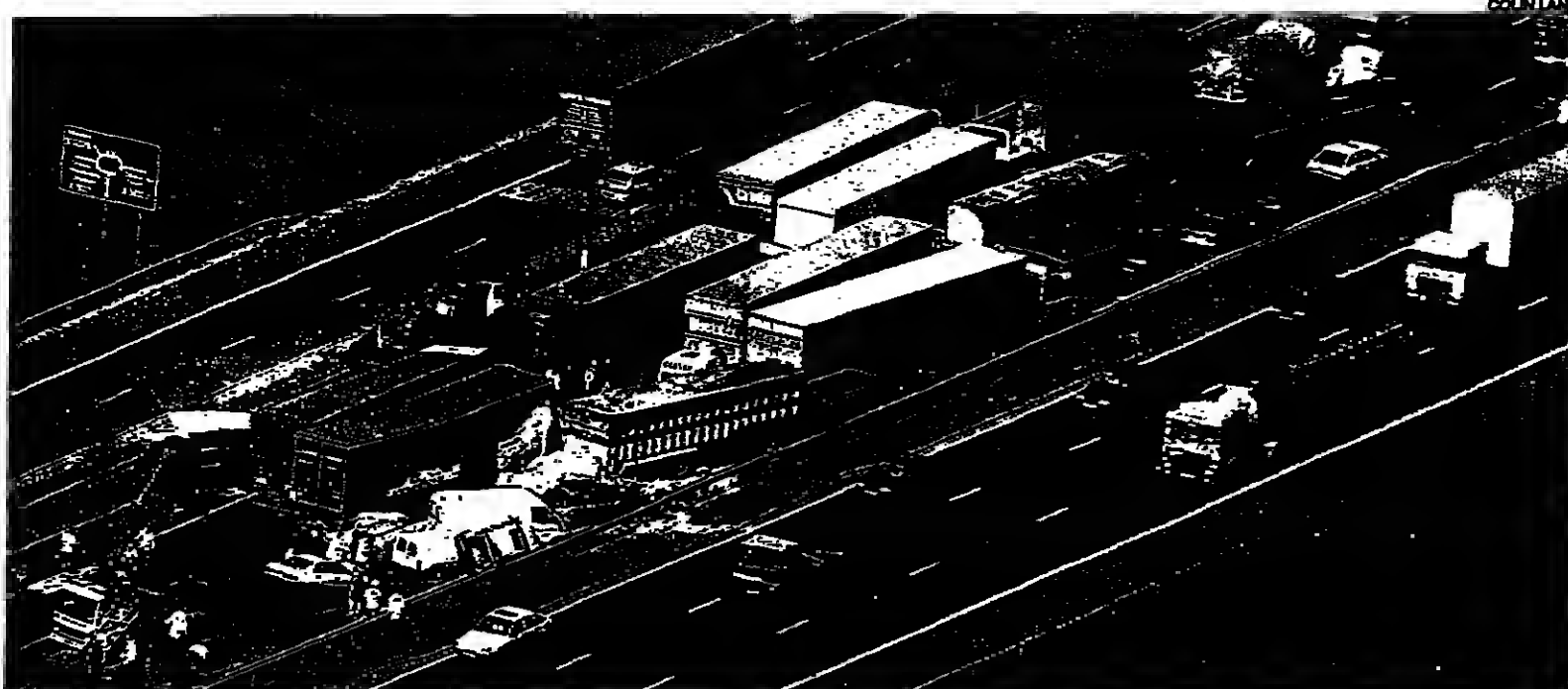
Mr Taylor was acquitted but three associates — Lt Col Eric Matson, Mr Harper and Michael Aspin — were convicted and served sentences of between two and six years. A fifth defendant, Keith Flatman, a solicitor, was acquitted on the orders of a judge as having no case to answer. All five had denied conspiring to obtain property by deception.

At their trial, Taylor, Matson, Harper and Aspin were accused of having fabricated an alleged involvement with Oliver North, the American military commander questioned by Congress over the Iran-Contra affair.

The prosecution said the deal fell through because there had never been any missiles to sell and that the operation was a simple fraud. Lt Col North was accused of having initiated the deal in an effort to improve relations with Iran.

The deal fell through, the men claimed, because Lt Col North backed away from it. But the jury was not told that Mr Taylor, now aged 60, an MI6 agent for 10 years, had been told by his handler to proceed.

This is similar to the case of Mr Paul Henderson, the former managing director of Matrix Churchill, who was cleared of illegally exporting defence equipment to Iraq after documents that the Government tried to suppress revealed his work for MI6.



The scene on the M6 near Sandbach in Cheshire yesterday — one of several pile-ups in thick fog on the motorway — in which two people were killed and at least two more seriously injured.

"Twenty to 30 vehicles were involved. There were two fatalities and two seriously injured," Staffordshire police said. A fleet of ambulances

ferried people injured in the crash, which happened in freezing fog, to North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary at Stoke-on-Trent.

The Sandbach crash was the first of several in Cheshire, and soon afterwards there was a second nearby on the opposite carriageway. There was then a string of accidents between Sandbach services and

Barthomley. Police said one lane on the northbound carriageway, where the accident happened, was still open but were advising drivers to use other routes where possible. Traffic on the southbound carriageway was described as normal.

At the height of the incident, about 120 damaged vehicles littered a mile-long stretch of motorway, police said.

One seriously injured person was taken to the trauma unit at the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary. Sixteen ambulance crews worked to ferry 20 others with less serious injuries to hospital.

The trouble, at Junction 16, began at around 9.30am when the motorway was still busy with commuter traffic.

Judges force Howard into another justice Bill retreat

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

MICHAEL Howard last night backed down over a key part of his proposal to modify a suspect's right to silence after opposition from the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gossforth, and other senior judges.

The Home Secretary was pushed into another retreat on his plans to overhaul the criminal justice system after Lord Taylor said he was "seriously troubled" by some of the detail surrounding curbs on the right to silence.

As a result of the concession given to the Lord Chief Justice, judges and magistrates will no longer be required to call upon a defendant to enter the witness box even if he has chosen to remain silent.

Instead, they will have to satisfy themselves only that the court, jury and accused are aware that failure to give evidence will enable the court or jury to draw inferences of

guilt. A Home Office spokesman said the change was to the procedure the court must follow to ensure that the defendant was aware of the risk.

Mr Howard is also facing pressure to climb down over another part of the proposal, which would allow juries and magistrates to draw inferences of guilt from a defendant's failure to answer police questions from the moment of arrest.

Alan Michael, a Labour home affairs spokesman, said: "Mr Howard has given this concession to the Lord Chief Justice to save the Government from yet another defeat in the Lords. He can either concede gracefully on the other area of concern or face defeat at the hands of the Lords."

The latest climbdown was disclosed in an amendment tabled by Mr Howard to the Criminal Justice and Public Order Bill, which today begins

its report stage in the Commons. The Home Secretary had held discussions with the Lord Chief Justice after it became clear that his unhappiness threatened a potential rebellion and defeat on the issue in the House of Lords.

Lord Taylor criticised the original plan to require judges and magistrates to call suspects into the witness box as an "unnecessary piece of theatre" that tended to introduce an inquisitorial element into the judge's role.

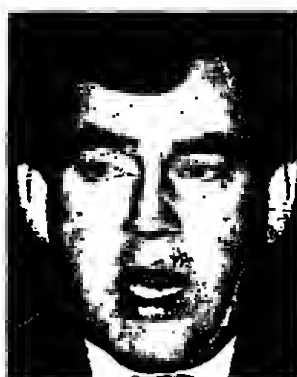
A spokesman for the Lord Chief Justice said last night that he was aware of the form of the amendment and was happy with it.

Mr Howard's concession is likely to ensure that the Lord Chief Justice supports the principle of modifying the right to silence when it is debated by the Lords. But even with Lord Taylor's backing, the proposal is expected to face

fierce opposition from peers.

Mr Howard is also under pressure from the Police Federation and Sir Ivan Lawrence, the Conservative chairman of the Home Affairs Select Committee, to change other parts of the proposed curbs on the right to silence. Sir Ivan has tabled an amendment to the Bill saying courts should only be able to draw an inference if questioning occurs with a tape recorder. Under Mr Howard's proposals, juries can draw inferences of guilt from a defendant's failure to answer police questions from the moment of arrest and not just during a formal tape-recorded interview.

The Police Federation, representing 100,000 rank and file officers, believes the courts should only be allowed to draw inferences of guilt from the start of a formal interview under the rules of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act.



Brown: pledge for the young unemployed

Workbench 'university' proposed

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

A UNIVERSITY to educate millions at the workplace as the Open University has served hundreds of thousands of home students since the 1960s was proposed by Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, yesterday.

He outlined action to tackle persistent unemployment, inadequate investment in skills, entrenched poverty in work and discrimination in the workplace, and a reform of the national insurance system to allow benefits to be used for training and retraining.

Mr Brown called for cuts in European interest rates and pledged a new deal for the young unemployed, with access to the highest quality of education and training; an environmental task force to combine training with community projects; job opportunities through the phased release of capital receipts to allow new building; a job-creating energy efficiency programme; and relief from National Insurance for employers taking on the long-term unemployed.

He proposed tax incentives for people who agree to undertake training and changes in the tax system to direct relief at activities that enhance national skills rather than equipment and buildings.

Mr Brown said the university for industry would use the communications revolution and Britain's media strengths, including the external services of the BBC, to sell work-based training to the developed and developing world.

Letters, page 19

Politics, page 4

Video fines

Continued from page 1
viewing of all videos deemed to be unsuitable for children. Sir Ivan Lawrence, one of the Conservative sponsors of the Alton amendment, said the Government had yet to show it was prepared to come forward with its own proposals to stop violent videos falling into the hands of young children.

The fate of the amendment will be determined by Labour MPs. If a substantial number support Mr Alton's Government could be defeated. Some 220 MPs, including 80 Tories, have backed it.

David Puttnam, the British film-maker, yesterday said he sympathised with the spirit of Mr Alton's amendment, but believed it was over-broadly defined and open to misinterpretation. "The one element absent from this entire debate on censorship is common sense," he said. Society had an absolute obligation to protect children. "If that upsets a few adults in the process, then that has to be accepted as an unfortunate byproduct."

Letters, page 19

Poll shock for Tories

Continued from page 1
the Liberal Democrats with ten, even though they would have a much higher share of the overall vote.

At present, the Tories hold 32 seats, Labour 45, the Scottish Nationalists one and the Liberal Democrats none, though there will be six extra seats in the June elections.

The latest poll also shows that Tory support has fallen sharply over the past year in London, even though its support has been largely unchanged nationally. This suggests that the Tories could suffer big losses in the London borough elections on May 5.

The Tories have been doing badly among middle-class groups; much worse than at the low point of their fortunes in the last Parliament in the first half of 1990.

Tory MPs returning to Westminster today are braced for two hard months of electioneering. There is little optimism about the outcome. Within 48 hours the Government will disclose whether the Eastleigh by-election, where it is facing defeat by the Liberal

May 5 or June 9. In Birmingham yesterday, as part of the Tories' aggressive local election campaign, the Prime Minister rejected accusations that a Conservative party political broadcast last week had insulted the people of the city as well as the "spending mad" Labour-controlled council.

He confirmed his upbeat message on the economy when addressing West Midlands businessmen. "The unmistakable conclusion from a wide range of recent economic figures is that our economy is growing rapidly," Mr Major declared. "It has been, for British industry and commerce, a difficult time but that is behind us now and the climate has changed."

Labour voiced scepticism last night about the MORI poll. "It is dangerous to predict results in individual constituencies from national polls," a spokesman said. "We do not believe it is possible to get 66 seats."

Poll details, page 4
Tony Travers, page 18

Belfast bombers hit two wrong houses

A family of eight escaped injury after Loyalist terrorists mistakenly hurled a pipe bomb through a window of their house in west Belfast. The Ulster Freedom Fighters, who carried a similar attack on Sunday night, claimed the house was used by Joe Austin, a local Sinn Féin councillor. Ann Austin, who lives in the house and is not related to the councillor, said she had been an innocent victim.

Earlier, a couple and their eight-month-old baby escaped injury when a pipe bomb was thrown through the front window of their house in the Polglass area of west Belfast. The UFF again claimed that the bomb was aimed at a local Sinn Féin councillor, but the couple said the wrong house had been attacked.

Three young children from a family of 16 died in a fire at their home in Tarbert, Co Kerry, yesterday. Darren O'Connor, 9, Jason, 7, and Chloe, 3, died while their parents were away from the semi-detached house.

Clue to missing walker

Equipment belonging to a woman who disappeared in western Scotland nine months ago were discovered near Kyle of Lochalsh, Highland. Helen Torbet, 62, from Busby, Glasgow, was last seen receiving a lift from a bed and breakfast at Inverinate, near Kyle of Lochalsh, last July. Police said she later called the guest house to say that she would return the following week, but had not been seen since. A team of 20 police were continuing to search the area last night for further clues after the discovery of the equipment by a member of the public during the weekend.

Baggage checks change

A further move to tighten air safety was made yesterday when the Government ordered airlines to account for every item of baggage carried. The new rule, which comes into force on July 1, means that each bag loaded on to an aircraft is linked to a particular passenger. The system is known as Triple A, the "accounting and authorising" of all baggage.

Baby death mother freed

A woman whose 15-month-old son died covered in sores in a urine-soaked pram was put on probation for three years by the Old Bailey yesterday after a jury had asked for mercy. The 37-year-old mother of seven and her 44-year-old husband were convicted in February of causing the baby's death. The father was jailed for seven years.

Wreckers threatened

The two six-year-old boys who wrecked a neighbouring house are prisoners in their own homes, the mother of one said yesterday. Residents on the estate at Basingstoke, Hampshire, are said to have threatened vengeance. One boy has been attacked by older youths and a brick was thrown through the family's glass front door.

Hair row girl returns



A ten-year-old girl banned from school because her dreadlock-style hair broke rules, returned to lessons yesterday with her hair intact while governors resolve the dispute. Laura Bryan-Woodford, left, of Cowes, Isle of Wight, was sent home from Somerton middle school, Cowes, before Easter. Since then the family's car has been vandalised and a bicycle belonging to her brother seen apart.

Chauffeur wins £7,800

A woman who telephoned her employer of eight weeks to ask for a day off after a miscarriage was sacked, she told an industrial tribunal yesterday. Harry Swor, 29, from Hounslow, west London, was awarded £7,800 after claiming sexual discrimination against Minister Cars of Kingston upon Thames, for whom she worked as a VIP chauffeur.

Patches on trial

Nicotine patches used to help smokers quit the habit may help sufferers of Tourette's syndrome, a disease that causes abnormal behaviour and outbursts of swearing. Trials have begun at Leicester University, where it is planned to test up to 50 people over a year. Researchers believe sufferers of tardive dyskinesia, a related disorder, may also be helped.

MAKING KNOCKANDO IS A BIT LIKE DOING THE TIMES CROSSWORD. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY HOW LONG IT'S GOING TO TAKE.

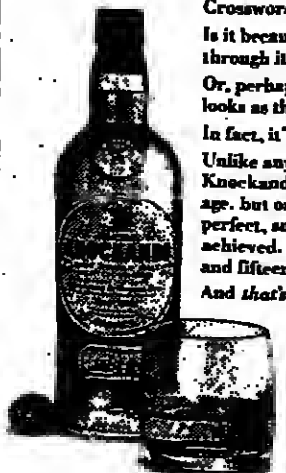
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AAD 183

مکان الی

Courts 'wrong to force treatment on pregnant women'

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN have a right to refuse medical treatment in pregnancy even if that refusal puts at risk their life or that of their unborn child, the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists has decided.

In a draft paper, the college's ethics committee criticises an inappropriate legal effort to obtain permission from judges to overrule a pregnant woman's refusal of treatment.

The paper, which has yet to be approved by the college council, says that if a woman is mentally capable of refusing treatment, doctors and health authorities should accept her wishes.

It says: "We conclude that it is inappropriate, and unlikely to be helpful or necessary, to involve judicial intervention to overrule an informed and competent woman's refusal of a proposed medical treatment, even though her refusal might place her life and that of her foetus at risk."

The committee's decision will reopen the debate about a woman's right to turn down medical treatment and the role of the courts to override her wishes.

It comes in the wake of a highly controversial decision in October 1992, when for the first time the president of the Family Division, Sir Stephen Brown, ruled that a Caesarean section could be lawfully per-

formed on a Nigerian woman without her consent.

The baby was lying transversely in the womb and it would have been impossible to deliver it normally. The mother, a born-again Christian who was not represented at the court hearing, objected to the operation on religious grounds.

Sir Stephen made his decision after a 22-minute hearing because of the urgency of the case. The baby died but the mother survived.

The college paper has been drawn up in an attempt to clarify the law and advise doctors. Most women want to do their utmost for their unborn child, it says. "However, occasionally conflict can arise between a mother's personal wishes and the well-being of her foetus as perceived by her professional attendants."

The woman and her doctor might disagree over what was the best course of action or the medical advice might conflict with her religious scruples.

Doctors, the paper concludes, must respect a competent pregnant woman's right to choose or refuse any particular recommended course of action while ensuring the optimum care for both mother and foetus.

The unborn child does not have a "personal legal status", this comes only from the

Footballer who almost killed ref is jailed

By ROBIN YOUNG

AN AMATEUR footballer who punched a referee so hard that he almost killed him was jailed for nine months yesterday. Timothy Farnham, 30, of Greenwich, southeast London, had admitted wounding Brian Kelly, 28.

Mr Kelly, of Lewisham, southeast London, whose life was saved by an emergency operation to remove a blood clot from his brain, said after the sentencing: "The way that violence on the football pitch has been growing recently, I am sure someone is going to get killed."

Croydon Crown Court was told at an earlier hearing that Mr Kelly had seen Farnham throw a punch at another player in a South London Federation division 4 match at Bexley, Kent, on October 30 last year.

The referee warned Farnham he would not permit violence and raised his red card. Farnham swore at Mr Kelly and struck him on the head with his fist so hard that spectators said they heard the blow 70ft away. Mr Kelly suffered brain damage, from which he has still not fully recovered.

After the hearing, Mr Kelly said he feared for other referees. "We get paid about £15 a game to do it, but we mainly referee for fun. I really do not know whether I will referee a game again."



Brian Kelly, still bearing marks from the blow, in his referee's kit yesterday

Nurse is suspended in sabotage enquiry

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

SIXTEEN incidents in which medical equipment may have been sabotaged have been identified by detectives after the deaths of two hospital patients, police said yesterday.

One nurse has already been suspended over allegations of tampering with life-support ventilators in the intensive care unit of Bassetlaw District General Hospital, Nottinghamshire. Detectives were called in after a month-long internal enquiry by a management team.

Det Supt Peter Coles told a news conference yesterday that 40 hospital staff had been interviewed. "The nature of the investigation means that it will continue for some considerable time yet."

The 16 incidents involved five different patients. Two had died, but he said it was impossible to say if these were the result of tampering.

"We will have to wait until the end of the enquiry when the information will be passed on to a medical investigation team that will examine the effects of the incidents on the patients involved," he said.

The same Trent Regional Health Authority was involved in the case of Beverly Allitt, the nurse who murdered four children at the Grantham General Hospital, Lincolnshire. She has received treatment at Bassetlaw Hospital while detained at Rampton top security hospital.

Good samaritan killed by mistake

By ROBIN YOUNG

A GOOD samaritan's devotion to helping people in need cost him his life, a judge at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Nicholas Stanley, 30, a housing support officer for the YMCA, was stabbed through the heart by an alcoholic woman he had comforted in hospital only a few hours earlier, James Curtis QC, for the prosecution, said.

Heather Key, 25, who lived at a Christian fellowship hostel in Guildford, Surrey, run by Mr Stanley's wife, admitted manslaughter. Her plea of not guilty to murder was accepted.

The court was told that the attack happened after Key and her fiancé, Melvin Rees, who had met in an alcohol detoxification centre, had been celebrating her birthday and holding a house-warming party at the flat that Mr Stanley had helped Mr Rees to find.

After an argument Key cut her wrist, Mr Curtis said. She telephoned Mr Stanley who

Gloucester body search switches to new site

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE death toll in the Gloucester "house of horror" enquiry rose to ten yesterday when Professor Bernard Knight, the Home Office pathologist, confirmed that remains found in a field were those of a woman.

The remains were found in Letterbox Field at Kempey, on the Gloucestershire-Hampshire border, by police investigating the discovery of nine bodies at 25 Cromwell Street, Gloucester.

Prof Knight said: "The remains are human, and it is a female. We have a lot more work to do before we can establish an age."

Police have been digging for two weeks in the field, a mile from Much Marcle, where the builder Frederick West grew up and where he and his first wife, Catherine "Rena" Costello, began their married life. Police said they would switch their search for bodies to a new rural location.

Mr West, 52, whose home is at 25 Cromwell Street, has been charged with murdering nine young women and girls, including his 16-year-old daughter Heather, over a 14-year period. He is due to appear before Gloucester Magistrates' court on May 5.

Despite a national appeal, police have failed to trace Mrs Costello, who was thought to have returned to her native Lancashire in the 1970s. The couple's daughter Charmaine vanished in 1977.



Nicholas Stanley, who was stabbed, with his wife

Too polite 'robber' ignored

By ROBIN YOUNG

A TIMID, well-spoken man with a high-voltage stun gun twice failed to hold up people leaving a building society, a court was told yesterday.

Stacey Main, 30, a clerk leaving with £5,000 cash, ignored the would-be robber's threat to electrocute him. David Christian, 24, was alleged to have said: "Oh alright then. You cannot blame me for trying," when Mr Main walked past him.

He then stopped Tony Bennett, the Old Bailey was told, saying: "I've just seen you coming out. I'll try and be positive and hope you were taking cash out. I've got a gun that will blow you away."

Mr Bennett replied: "Actually I was paying some money in," and Mr Christian allegedly replied: "OK, because you've been truthful, you haven't been hurt."

Mr Christian, a fitter of New Cross, southeast London, denies attempted robbery and possessing a firearm last September.

JP in voucher fraud used stars' names

By A STAFF REPORTER

A MAGISTRATE was jailed for three years yesterday for cashing stolen disability benefit vouchers worth £150,000 in the names of rock singers, film stars and the Prime Minister.

Nam Dev Bagla, who is also a Birmingham city Labour councillor, filled in names including J. Major, M. Jagger and S. Stallone on the vouchers, the jury at Wolverhampton Crown Court was told. He shared the proceeds with the thieves and then blamed his wife.

The vouchers, processed through his sub post office at Dudley, West Midlands, came from a haul worth £2 million stolen in Birmingham. Philip Bown, for the prosecution, said investigators who raided the post office found that the stolen vouchers were from 456 different books. They were made out to a string of names which included T. Rex, Y. Brynner and A. Snake.

Sentencing Bagla, 37, of Handsworth, Birmingham, Judge Hodson described him as the prime mover in the fraud, which had been carried out for over a year.

trust that had been placed in him.

Bagla, who has now left his wife, was convicted of conspiring with others to steal the money from the Department of Social Security and the Post Office. He had denied the charge.

His wife Davinder Kaur Bagla, 36, was jailed for a year after admitting a similar offence.

The court heard that Bagla and his wife processed the stolen vouchers through their sub post office over a period of 11 months. Mr Bown told the jury: "As many as 103 stolen vouchers were cashed at the post office in a week... The money was found for Mr Bagla's pocket and Mrs Bagla's handbag."

During the trial, Bagla claimed that he did not know what was going on because he was busy as a magistrate sitting in court, and as a councillor.

Murray Creed, for Mrs Bagla, said his client was a timid person who had been

"Unlike me, my Rolex never needs a rest."

Wherever his travels may take him, Plácido Domingo takes a series of green bound books. Into these he writes his engagements three years ahead; such are the demands of the major Opera Houses of the world on the man acclaimed as possibly the greatest living tenor.

Plácido Domingo has committed some eighty different operatic roles to memory. He believes this daunting repertoire is necessary to attract the widest possible audience. For this is his ambition: to help more people, all over the world, enjoy and appreciate the music he loves.

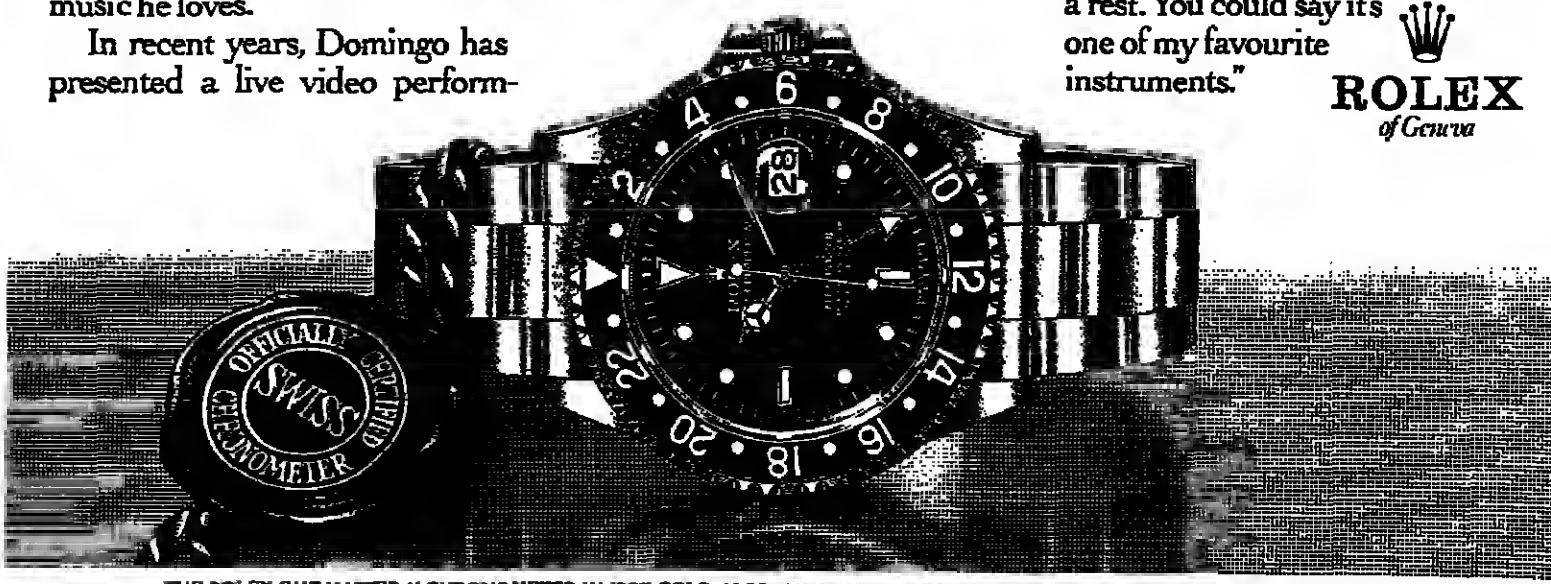
In recent years, Domingo has presented a live video perform-

ance of 'La Bohème' to an audience outside Covent Garden. He provoked a rapturous ovation in China (until then, Chinese audiences seldom even applauded). And a legendary curtain call in Barcelona lasted one hour and fifty minutes. "It would have been easier," Plácido has said, "to sing the opera all over again."

Over and above this punishing schedule, Plácido has sung many benefits, has been appointed President of the European Youth Opera, has appeared in films and videos, and has renewed his interest in conducting.

As a student at the Mexico City Conservatoire, this was his main study. Now Domingo can bring all the experience of his singing career to bear on his conducting. "The operatic conductor is like a Roman charioteer," he says. "He has a hundred horses on stage and a hundred horses in the pit. And he has to control them all."

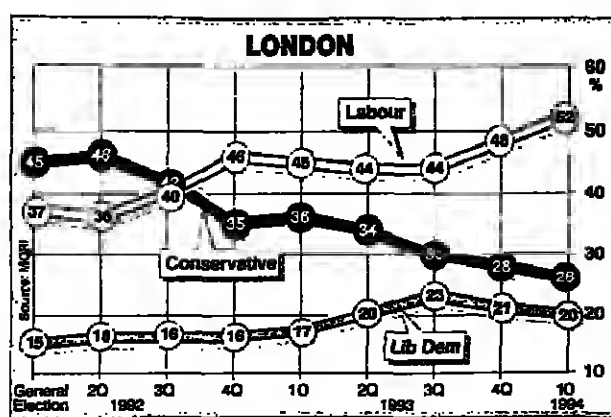
To keep up with these ever-increasing demands on his time Plácido Domingo, the Ambassador of Opera, relies on his Rolex. "This watch is perfect for me," he says, "because, unlike me, it never needs a rest. You could say it's one of my favourite instruments."



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London voters poised to defect as Conservative strength in capital deteriorates



By PETER RIDDELL

THE Tories could suffer big losses in London in the local and European Parliament elections, according to the latest MORI analysis of voting intentions.

The projections for the capital are particularly worrying for the Tories. Their position has continued to deteriorate steadily over the past year, even though nationally the Conservative Party's share of the vote has been largely unchanged for nearly 12 months.

In London, the Tories won 45 per cent of the vote at the general

election two years ago, but this has slipped to 26 per cent now. Since the second quarter of last year, the Tory share in the capital has dropped eight points.

By contrast, the Labour share has risen steadily, from 37 per cent at the general election, via 44 per cent in the second quarter last year, to 52 per cent now.

The Liberal Democrats, whose strength has always been patchy in London, have improved their rating from 15 to 20 per cent since the general election.

If these figures are repeated in the London borough elections on May

5, the Tories may lose control of some outer London boroughs which they still hold. However, local factors and levels of council tax in, for instance, Wandsworth and Westminster, could affect the outcome.

On the basis of these regional figures, the Conservative Party would lose its three remaining European Parliament seats in London: North West, South and Surrey East (though only very narrowly) and South East.

The MORI aggregate for the first quarter gives a large enough sam-

ple for London of around 1,500 to permit such detailed voting projections.

The latest figures underline how the Tory position has deteriorated more among middle class than working class groups since the general election. The Tory share has fallen from 54 to 37 per cent among the middle classes, and from 34 to 20 per cent among the working classes.

The Conservative share in the middle classes is, at 37 per cent, much lower than during the party's worst period in the last parliament in the first half of 1990, when its

share only fell to just below 50 per cent. The Tories then still enjoyed a 12 to 15 percentage point lead over the Labour Party among the middle classes.

Now the two parties are level pegging. By contrast, Labour's lead in the working classes now is, at 38 points, the same as it was in the first half of 1990.

This trend is underlined by the change in voting shares since the election among those with mortgages, some 47 per cent of the population. Tory support in this group has dropped from 46 to 29 per cent.

Opinion polls predict disaster for Tories

Labour set for landslide in European elections

By PETER RIDDELL

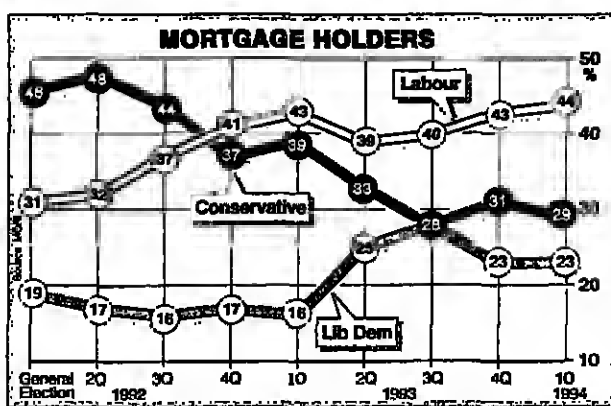
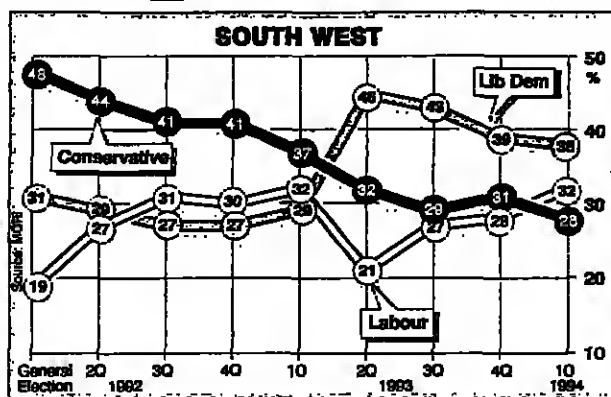
THE Labour Party could capture three-quarters of the British seats in the elections for the European Parliament on June 9, leaving the Tories and the Liberal Democrats battling for second place.

These results would be excellent for Labour, awful to disastrous for the Tories and between reasonable and a breakthrough for the Liberal Democrats. However, the margins in several seats are very narrow between all three parties and small shifts in votes could result in big changes in seats won and lost.

These findings, while tentative, will worry Tory strategists planning their campaigns for the local elections on May 5 and the Euro-elections five weeks later. The projections are based on the new MORI aggregate of voting intentions of 11,841 people over the first three months of this year. These put Labour in first place on 48 per cent followed by the Tories on 28 per cent and the Liberal Democrats on 21 per cent.

Assuming a uniform national swing of votes since the 1992 election, Labour could win 66 seats if these ratings are repeated on June 9. The Tories would be left with 15 and the Liberal Democrats with three. That is after taking account of the extra allocation of six seats to Britain. Labour now has 45 seats, the Tories 32, the Scottish Nationalists one and the Liberal Democrats none. If the national figures are broken down on a regional basis the picture becomes much worse for the Tories. This is because of large regional variations as the Liberal Democrats have concentrated much of their advance in the South West.

On the basis of regional shifts since 1992, the Tories could win only eight Euro-seats and be behind the Liberal Democrats on ten.



66 seats. Such an outcome could induce panic among Tory MPs in previous Tory strongholds.

The first-past-the-post system exaggerates the impact of variations in votes upon seats, especially on the large European constituencies which include seven or eight Westminster seats. Labour could win three-quarters of the seats with less than half the national vote. By contrast, the Tories could win less than a tenth of the seats with nearly 30 per cent of the vote.

The sensitivity of the seat projections to small shifts in votes is shown by a comparison with the last MORI analysis three months ago. This suggested that the Tories could win 17 seats on a uniform national change in votes and 13 seats after taking account of regional variations.

The latest figures would mean five fewer seats for the Tories on the regional basis and put them behind the Liberal Democrats, even though they would have won more votes. The last monthly MORI poll at the end of March suggested that lower turnout in European elections than in general elections should make little difference.

While boundary changes make comparisons difficult, Labour would gain Bedfordshire and Milton Keynes, Cotswolds, Cumbria and Lancashire North, Essex South, Herefordshire and Shropshire, Hertfordshire, Kent East, Kent West, Lancashire Central, Lincolnshire and Humberside South, London North West, London South East, Norfolk, Northamptonshire and Blaby, and Suffolk and South West Norfolk from

the Tories. Labour would also win Highlands and Islands from the Scottish Nationalists, though few MPs believe this will happen.

Assuming a uniform national shift, the Tories would hold London South and Surrey East, and Sussex South and Crawley, but Labour would gain both seats on the basis of regional variations. The reverse would happen with North Yorkshire, and Worcestershire and South Warwickshire. Labour would gain both on a uniform national swing, but they would be held by the Tories on the basis of regional variations.

The Liberal Democrats are projected to gain Cornwall and West Plymouth, Devon and East Plymouth, and Somerset and North Devon from the Tories on both assumptions. On the regional breakdown, the Liberal Democrats would also capture Dorset and East Devon, East Sussex and Kent South, Essex North and Suffolk South, Hampshire North and Oxfordshire, Ithlen Test and Avon, Wiltshire North and Wiltshire North and Bath from the Tories.

At the general election the Tories took 48 per cent of the vote in the South West, compared with 31 per cent for the Liberal Democrats and 19 per cent for Labour. The Liberal Democrat share jumped to 45 per cent in the second quarter last year. Although it has slipped to 38 per cent in the first quarter of this year, this would still give the party big gains in the region. In the first quarter, the Tory share was 28 per cent, behind Labour on 32 per cent.

These figures contain the aggregate of MORI's voting intention polls over January to March. A total of 11,841 adults were interviewed. Data were weighted to match the profile of the population. Party support figures exclude those who said they would not vote (9 per cent), were undecided (7 per cent) or refused to name a party (3 per cent).

Lib Dems step up Eastleigh pressure

By JONATHAN PRYNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

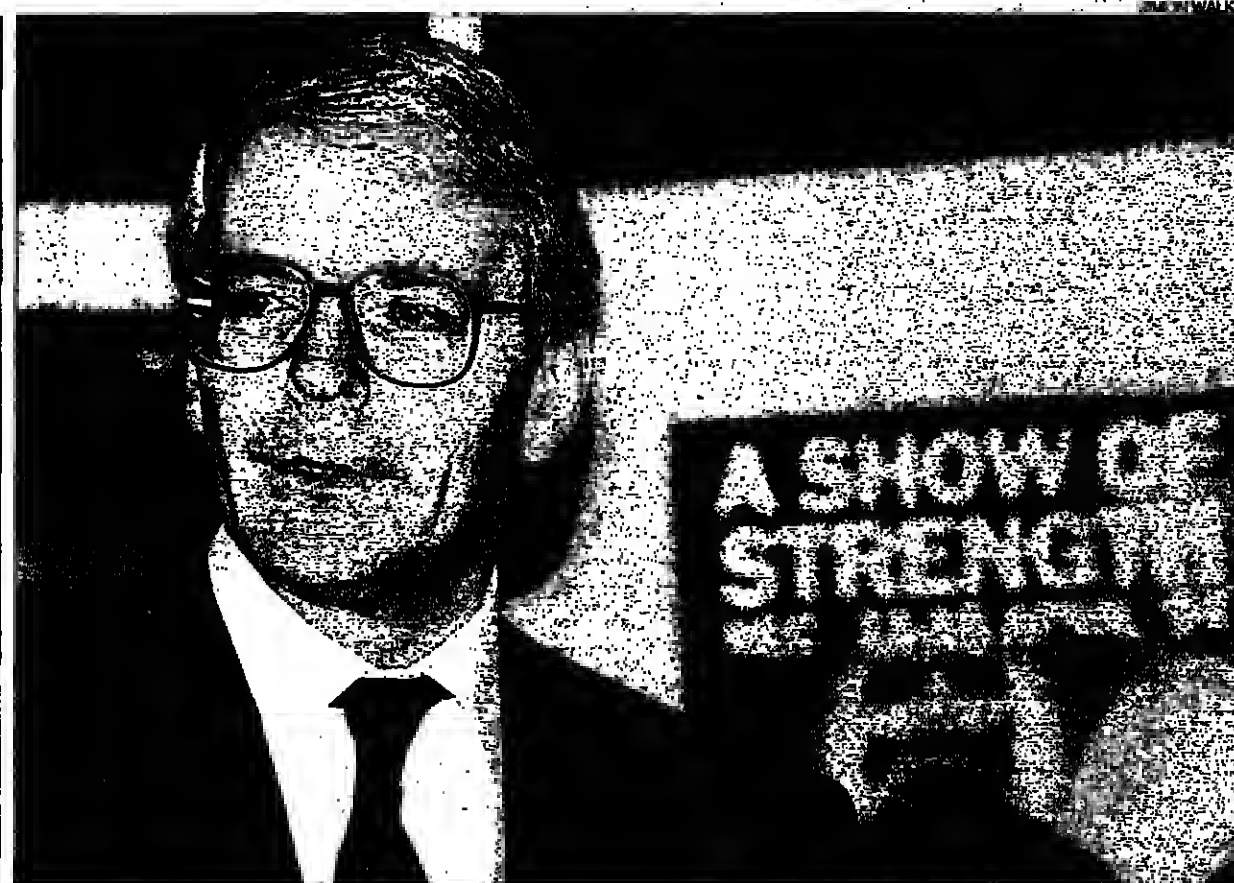
THE Liberal Democrats are planning to step up the pressure on the Tories over the timing of the Eastleigh by-election by moving the writ for the crucial poll this week.

The Conservatives would prefer to put off the by-election until the European elections in June to minimise the Liberal Democrat bandwagon effect if, as expected, the Tory candidate is trounced.

However, under a parliamentary convention dating back to the early 1970s, other parties are entitled to move the writ in the Commons as a safeguard against unreasonable delay.

Matthew Taylor, the Liberal Democrat election campaigns chief, said yesterday that the party may put forward a motion moving the writ today or later this week for a May 5 poll coinciding with the local elections if the government defeats the motion, the by-election could not be held this parliamentary session and would have to be put back until at least November. More likely, the Government will move an amendment simply postponing the moving of the writ.

However, it faces problems delaying the poll until the June 9 European elections because of the convention that by-election writs are moved within three months of the previous MP's death, with the poll held about three weeks after that. This would mean Eastleigh going to the polls in the second half of May at the



John Major visiting the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham yesterday during his tour of the city

Major takes the fight to Birmingham

By EDWARD GORMAN

DESPITE the profile the Conservative Party is giving its "battle for Birmingham" in the local election campaign, few would bet on Labour losing its decade-long hold over the country's biggest local council.

Yesterday the Prime Minister himself visited the city as part of his national morale-boosting tour, and did his best to dispel the notion that London-based Tories look down their noses at the Midlands' capital.

In an interview with the *Evening Mail* — one of the most widely read local papers in the old heartland of the car industry — John Major called Birmingham a "great city" which could soon once again live up to its name as the home of 1,001 trades. His argument, he said, was with the council not the people. "It's a very bad council — that is nothing to do with the people of Birmingham being bad. They just happen to have elected a very bad council," he said.

His comments came during the spontaneous backlash in the city, and not only from Labour quarters, against a national Tory political broadcast last week which depicted Birmingham at the mercy of a profligate Labour authority, throwing money around in the manner of Liverpool.

Among examples cited in the film, made by Saatchi and Saatchi, was £250,000 spent on mobile phones for gravediggers and £400 spent on recycled paperclips. Local Tories were seen complaining that the council's £1.3 billion debt was now bigger than that of Albania.

While it may have inspired Tory workers elsewhere in the country, the film was seen by many in Birmingham as simple, much-thrown "which could harm the city's steady resurgence from the trauma of recession and the efforts made to improve its image as a location for inward investment."

John James, chairman of the international committee of City 2000, an initiative aimed at promoting Birmingham as a location for development, described the broadcast as "very unhelpful." He said it was inevitable that the views in it will have been interpreted not just as those of the Conservative Party but of the Government of the day, and they

could be very damaging to potential investors overseas.

"The reality is that this has always been a very supportive administration; of the marketing partnership and of initiatives... to bring inward investment," he said. Clearly mistakes had been made in Birmingham, "but to have them magnified on national TV by the Government's own propaganda is potentially very damaging."

If the broadcast appears to have got the Tory campaign off on the wrong foot, a recent council by-election victory for Labour suggests the chances of the Conservatives gaining the four seats necessary to overturn Labour's overall control are much slimmer in

practice than may appear on paper. Labour's victory in the Quinton ward last month took its majority in the 117-seat council to seven, giving the party a total of 62 seats as against the Tories' 42 and the Liberal Democrats' 13. Significantly, this was the first time that Labour had beaten the Tories in Quinton, and it was national issues — the economy, the health service and Mr Major's leadership — which decided the matter.

Dr Chris Painter, lecturer in politics and public policy at the University of Central England based in Birmingham, believes the result is an accurate portent of what is to come on May 5. "Extrapolating from that, we can expect Labour to make another two to three gains, taking their majority up into double figures."

While local Tories talk and seek encouragement from the last local elections in 1992, when the party took ten seats from Labour, swept along on the tide of the unexpected general election victory, Dr Painter believes the best comparison now is with 1990 when Labour profited from the dismal Tory ratings in the national opinion polls, the crisis over the leadership at that time and the negative impact of the poll tax.

Bernard Zissman, the leader of the Tory group, admits that his hopes of 12 months ago of now being able to inflict a "thumping defeat" on Labour, have faded. Instead he talks of just getting enough votes to overturn their control, capitalising on the overspending issue.

Straw targets council tax

COUNCIL tax bills for people living under Conservative authorities are rising almost twice as fast as those in Labour controlled areas, it was claimed yesterday (Jonathan Prynn writes).

On the eve of Labour's local election campaign launch, Jack Straw, the shadow Environment Secretary, revealed new figures showing bills for Band D households increasing only 1.2 per cent this year in areas that the party controls. The rise was 2.1 per cent under the Tories and 5.7 per cent in Liberal Democrat areas.

Mr Straw said the latest figures, based on the Tory's "own chosen measure" of the council tax burden, proved that "voters get a better deal with Labour councils."

Previous Labour figures, using average council tax bills for all households, had been dismissed as "ridiculous" by John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, who has based his statistics on band D, the middle property price band on the council tax scale.

Mr Straw said 70 authorities Labour controlled had reduced their Band D council tax bills this year against only 51 councils under Tory control.

"These figures will make yet more depressing reading for Conservative Party Central Office," he said.

However, he admitted that even after this year's increases Band D households in Labour areas will still pay £94 more in council tax than those in Tory areas.

East Anglia stronghold under siege

By ANDREW PIERCE

THE collapse of support for the Conservatives in East Anglia will be a particularly cruel blow for John Major.

The Prime Minister's closest supporters in the Government represent Norfolk and Suffolk constituencies. Their influence is such that they have been dubbed the "East Anglia Mafia". If, as the MORI poll suggests, Labour seizes Norfolk and Suffolk, which are in Mr Major's backyard, in the European Parliament elections, the damage to his leadership will be enormous.

Norfolk is home to John MacGregor, the Transport Secretary, Gillian Shephard, Agriculture Minister, and Richard Ryder, the Chief Whip. John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, is MP for neighbouring Suffolk Coastal. They are close allies of Mr Major, who lives in neighbouring Huntingdon.

There is little evidence that voters share the Government's hopes of an economic recovery. The latest Chamber



MacGregor: one of the "East Anglia Mafia"

psephologists. In 1988 the rise in house prices matched the Home Counties. High-tech science parks mushroomed around Cambridge. It was a natural second home to City workers. But the prices crashed 30 per cent. Negative equity is a serious impediment to economic recovery and many of the owners caught in the trap have not forgiven the Tories.

Few local Tories are under any illusions about the scale of the task in their once impregnable stronghold. The Norfolk Euro-constituency is made up of seven parliamentary constituencies: six have Tory MPs. In last May's county council elections the Tories lost control for the first time this century.

John Birkbeck, who lives in Mr Ryder's constituency, lost his seat after 23 years on the county council. He predicted a similar meltdown in June. He said: "It will be a disaster both locally and nationally for the Tories. I know many long-standing Tories who will not vote for the first time in their lives. They are disenchanted with the Tory leader-

ship but they don't know why."

John Alston, a county councillor and former council leader, also feared the worst. "I fear that Tory voters will stay at home. It may be their way of punishing the party. It's not that they hate John Major. It's just that nobody can find any good reasons to support him. The tax rises have not helped."

In the Suffolk Euro-constituency, where five of the six parliamentary constituencies are solidly Tory, the campaign looks equally bleak for John Major. Peter Brown, deputy chairman of Waverley Conservatives and a local councillor, said: "At least until last week we could say that the Tories were tough in negotiations with the rest of Europe. The way the Prime Minister handled that issue has cost us support on both wings of the Europe divide."

There is at least one consolation for the Prime Minister. Cambridgeshire, home to Huntingdon, and Lord Archer, the novelist and Tory fund-raiser, will stay true to the Tory tradition.

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مكتبة النش

Buyer rounds up £2m ranch in record time

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

A £2 MILLION mansion is heading for the record books after being sold in only nine hours.

El Remo, which was once owned by the record producer Mickie Most, became the ultimate impulse buy when a businessman purchased it for his wife.

At 9am, Sean Heaney, of the estate agency Stations, met the owner and prospective buyer. They went on a tour of the gleaming white ranch-style house, atypical of its surroundings in suburban Tottenham, north London.

Mr Most, who made stars of Mud, Suzi Quatro and Hot Chocolate, moved out in the 1980s and built the largest post-war house in London near by. The property is worth £4 million and has Europe's largest private pool.

The home he left has a heated pool, but it is only 48ft long. El Remo, which is set in 1½ acres, also has five bedrooms, a snooker room, gymnasium, barbecue terrace, guest lodge and staff quarters.

9.40am: The buyer is certain he wants the house. He knows that someone else has ordered a survey but has yet to make an acceptable offer. He makes his bid on the spot, and already has the finance for a



The hacienda-style El Remo, set in 1½ acres of north London, includes a 48ft pool, snooker room and barbecue terrace for the optimistic

deposit of more than 10 per cent. There is no chain: neither buyer nor seller has to wait for other properties to be sold.

10.40am: The two parties, both described as English businessmen, agree terms. The buyer rings his surveyor,

who has been on stand-by. Solicitors are contacted. The vendor's lawyer is on holiday in Israel, but abandons the beach to handle the deal by hotel fax. Motorcycle couriers ferry documents between the law firms and their clients.

The lawyers arrange for a high-speed personal search of council planning records.

1.40pm: The surveyor makes a satisfactory verbal report after a two-hour inspection. Now everything depends on the search.



Mickie Most: moved on to bigger things

without the strain. A personal search costs more but is quicker than the usual three-day service offered by the local authority, Barnet Council. It involves sending an individual to inspect the council's planning records, instead of waiting for officials to do so.

A conveyancing expert described the deal as very rare. Bryan King, a solicitor and former chairman of the Law Society's land law and succession committee, said personal searches were useful in emergencies, but a formal search was less risky because it was signed and stamped by the official authorities.

Matrix chief in new firm

By CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

THE former head of Matrix Churchill, Paul Henderson, went back into business yesterday with a new partner, John Butcher MP, a former Conservative trade minister.

Mr Henderson has joined Mr Butcher — a junior minister at the DTI between 1982 and 1988 — and Peter Brasier, a merchant banker, to buy out Production Systems International, an engineering company which last year had an annual turnover of £3.5 million.

It is the first business venture undertaken by Mr Henderson since he was acquitted of illegally exporting defence equipment to Iraq 18 months ago. He is taking legal advice over a possible claim for compensation for the collapse of Matrix Churchill, as are 700 former employees.

Mr Henderson, who has known Mr Butcher for 12 years, said: "It is purely and simply a commercial venture."

Owners reluctant to rent as more homes stay empty

By RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE number of homes standing empty has almost doubled over the past ten years to nearly 870,000, according to figures published yesterday.

Research by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation shows an increase in empty private homes from 539,000 in 1983 to 764,000 now. The Government owns 15,800 empty homes and housing associations a further 17,500. The number of empty homes owned by councils has fallen from 114,000 in 1983 to 70,000 today.

Bob Lawrence, chief executive of the Empty Homes Agency, a charity which seeks to bring empty homes back into use, and co-author of the Rowntree report, said that using 10 per cent of the country's empty homes would have a significant impact on the problems of homelessness. There are about 142,000 homeless families, according to the Environment Department.

The report says that owners are reluctant to let property standing empty pending sale because they are worried about the potential problems of being a landlord. "Rent collection, selection of tenants, the risk of default or damage to the property have all been reported by owners as disincentives," the report says.

Mr Lawrence said that opportunities for unlocking these assets had never been greater. Recent legislation means landlords can more easily regain

possession of property which has been let. After decades in which legislation was biased towards tenants, the 1988 Housing Act introduced the assured shorthold tenancy, which guarantees that owners can regain possession of their premises at the end of the tenancy.

Housing associations, which could use the properties to help to house the homeless, have been given more resources to repair and manage empty property.

"The performance of many local authorities has improved greatly," Mr Lawrence said. "If the least effective matched the record of the best, the position would be better still."

He urged councils to examine the amount of housing stock they owned. "Councils can and should devise empty property strategies to secure the reoccupation of long-term empty homes in both the public and private sectors."

Not only would the homeless benefit, but property owners would save money, he said. "The cost of keeping properties empty, in maintenance expenditure and deterioration, insurance, and security measures, has been calculated at £30 million to £100 million for every 10,000 homes. Occupied homes generate rent which defrays these costs." In addition, council tax and standing charges in empty homes were met by the owner.

Convictions increase for cruelty to animals

By MICHAEL HORNSEY

A RECORD number of people were convicted of cruelty to animals last year, according to figures released today. Dogs were by far the most commonly abused animals, followed by cats and horses.

The annual report of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) said 3,065 people were successfully prosecuted, compared with 3,003 in 1993.

RSPCA inspectors investigated 91,176 complaints of cruelty, up from 88,632 last year, and found sufficient evidence to warrant issuing cautions in 4,458 cases.

Dogs were the victims in 1,279 of the cruelty convictions and cats in 233. The number of people found guilty of mistreating horses and donkeys rose from 81 to 128. Unemployed people accounted for 38 per cent of all cruelty convictions.

The release of the cruelty statistics came as the RSPCA's own working practices came under scrutiny after the disclosure that it had accumulated reserves worth £75 million.

Jerry Lloyd, the RSPCA's director of public relations, said there had been an unexpected increase in legacies. Much of the money was earmarked for expenditure on ten new animal homes costing £1.5 million each to build and £200,000 a year to run.

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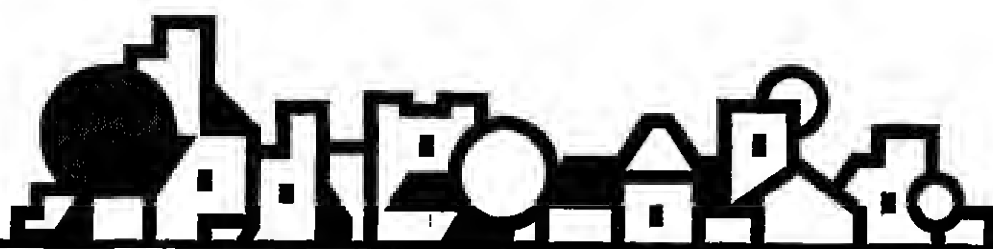
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Tomorrow is closing date for our game of imagination

Test your skill as a cricket selector

THE cricket season begins tomorrow and *The Times*, in association with Canon UK Ltd, has joined the Test and County Cricket Board in an exclusive arrangement to produce a game that will keep armchair cricket-lovers happy throughout the season. You have until tomorrow to play *The Times* First Class XI, and use your skills as a cricket selector to win a trip for two to any Test match anywhere in the world next year.

Every run your players make and every wicket they take will count. Choose your players from the list on the right and use the First Class XI list to record your selection. You can enter as many times as you like by telephone or by post. There are no artificial additives, no estimated salaries, no ratings, no transfer fees, just a test of knowledge and selection skill. Pick a team, and follow your progress in *The Times*, the paper for cricket.

How to play: Pick the team that you think will accumulate the most runs and wickets in the first-class cricket season. We have listed 266 players, all of whom are registered with the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB), and placed them in the following categories:

Batsmen (numbered 001-113); **all-rounders** (114-156); **wicketkeepers** (157-176) and **bowlers** (177-266).

There are also three secondary categories: **Captains** (18), **overseas players** (16), and **rising stars** (28), promising players as selected by *The Times*.

Your team of 11 must be made up as follows: five batsmen; one all-rounder; one wicketkeeper; four bowlers. No other combination will be accepted and players may only be selected as categorised by *The Times*. (For example, Graeme Hick may only be chosen as an all-rounder, not as a batsman). Each player has a number which must be used when selecting him for the game.

There are three further re-

strictions to your selection. In your XI, you must pick one — and no more than one — from the list of captains. For example, if you pick Alec Stewart (captain of Surrey), he will count as captain and batsman. You may not pick another captain, even from another playing category.

2) You must also pick one — and no more than one — of the players listed in the overseas player category. Your rising star may be a batsman, all-rounder, wicketkeeper or bowler.

In addition to the 11 players picked for the team, you must select one reserve for each of the primary categories (batsmen, all-rounders, wicketkeeper, bowlers). No captain, overseas player or rising star may be selected as a reserve. These reserves will only become active in the event of a first-choice player being officially declared inactive (for reasons of injury) for the rest of the season by *The Times* First Class XI panel. In that case your reserve will be automatically activated and his score from that moment

will be added to the injured player's total. Only one replacement will be allowed in each of the four primary categories. A player declared inactive cannot re-enter the game. Having selected your team, you may give it a name. How to score: Scores will be measured by the following means: runs (the aggregate runs scored by all 11 players); wickets (the wickets taken by all 11 players); wicketkeeping dismissals (catches and stumpings made by your wicketkeeper).

Each run will count as one point, each wicket as 20 points, each wicketkeeper's dismissal as 20 points (the last two categories will be listed under the heading, wickets). The total of runs and wickets will represent the entrant's total team score. The object of *The Times* First Class XI is to select the 11 players that will accumulate the most points in any of the competition periods.

In the event of a tie, competitors will be separated by counting the score of their reserves. If that is insufficient, the score of the rising star will be decisive. If a further tie-break is necessary, the final tied competitors will be asked to pick their player of the season and explain why.

All matches deemed to be first-class by the TCCB (five, four or three days) will count, including Cornhill Insurance Test matches, Britannia Assurance county championship, University matches and Telford Bitter Challenge (county matches v touring team matches). One-day matches will not count. At the end of each round of matches and each competition period, *The Times* will publish the list of categorised names and their updated aggregate point scores for runs and wickets.

How to enter: There are five separate competitions. First, the main competition which runs throughout the 1994 English cricket season and for which entries must be received no later than tomorrow. There are four short competitions covering the matches which take place between April 13-May 23; May 24-June 27; June 28-August 8; August 9-September 19.

Entries for the main competition (which may be made by post or by telephone) will also qualify automatically for all four short competitions. Entry details for the individual short competitions (numbers two, three and four) will be published later.

The winners will be the entrants who have the highest points scores after the last match in each competition period and their names will be published in *The Times* with

THE TIMES

To enter by phone: call

0891 50018

Calls cost 39p a minute (cheap rate, 49p a minute at other times). Calls last around 6-10 minutes.

Your Personal Identification Number

Code Name

BATSMEN (001-113)

ALL-ROUNDER (114-156)

WICKETKEEPER (157-176)

BOWLERS (177-266)

RESERVES

BATSMAN

ALL-ROUNDER

WICKETKEEPER

BOWLER

TEAM NAME

(up to 16 characters)

CHECK THAT YOU HAVE SELECTED

One captain ☐ One overseas player ☐

One rising star ☐

To enter by post (please use block capitals)

NAME

ADDRESS

AGE IF UNDER 18 TELEPHONE No.

Send your entries to: Times First Class XI, 4A Church Green, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 2TP. Entries must be accompanied by two first class stamps

the names and scores of the leading 100 entrants.

You may enter any of the competitions as many times as you like but each entry requires a separate telephone call or original entry form (photocopies will not be accepted). Telephone calls must be aged 18 or over.

Entries, whether made by telephone or mail, will be acknowledged by letter including a computer printout of your team selection and an official scorecard. Please allow 28 days for delivery.

Entering by telephone: The 24-hour telephone lines are open now and close at noon tomorrow. When you have selected your team, check what type of telephone you are using. You must have a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) to enter. You cannot enter using a rotary dial or "pulse" telephone. Once you have found a Touch-tone tele-

phone, you can enter by dialling 0891 50018.

Then just follow the simple step-by-step instructions. Listen carefully and take your time. The recorded message will ask you to key in the full set of selections (player reference numbers) for each of your 11 chosen players in the following order: the five batsmen, the all-rounder, the wicketkeeper, the bowlers. You will then be asked to name your reserves (in the same order). Make sure that the numbers you give fall within the range for each category (ie batsmen, 001-113; all-rounders, 114-156; wicketkeepers, 157-176; bowlers 177-266). Make sure you have picked one captain, one overseas player and one rising star in your team. An incorrect entry will be void.

You will then be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters) and to record your name, address and daytime phone number. Finally, you will be given an

eight-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN).

Entering by post: Each postal application must be made on an original entry form (no photocopies) and accompanied by two first-class stamps (which will be used to acknowledge entry). Send them to *The Times* First Class XI, 4A Church Green, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 2TP. Entries must arrive by noon tomorrow.

Team names: Competitors may give their teams any name of up to 16 characters although if a name is considered to be in poor taste by the panel, or if that name has already been taken, the competitor's surname will be used.

The Times First Class XI panel: Ray Illingworth, the new chairman of selectors, Michael Atherton, the England captain, and Alan Lee, the cricket correspondent of *The Times*, form the panel which has final authority on any issues arising.

Batsmen (001-113)

Pick five players and a reserve from this category

001. J C Adams (Derbyshire)
002. J C Adams (Nottinghamshire)
003. G F Archer (Nottinghamshire)
004. A J Birt (Worcestershire)
005. M A Brown (Lancashire)
006. C W J Athey (Sussex)
007. S J Bailey (Northamptonshire)
008. J J Baines (Derbyshire)
009. M R Benson (Kent)
010. D J Bicknell (Surrey)
011. T J Birt (Leicestershire)
012. P D Bowler (Derbyshire)
013. N E Briers (Leicestershire)
014. S B Brown (Lancashire)
015. A D Brown (Surrey)
016. D Byas (Yorkshire)
017. D C Carr (Middlesex)
018. P A Cobby (Gloucestershire)
019. G R Cowdrey (Kent)
020. R M F Cox (Hampshire)
021. M P Cresswell (Sussex)
022. M A Crawley (Nottinghamshire)
023. T S Curtis (Nottinghamshire)
024. J A Daley (Derbyshire)
025. W A Dessau (Nottinghamshire)
026. D B D'Oliveira (Worcestershire)
027. N H Fairbrother (Lancashire)
028. M A Felton (Northamptonshire)
029. N A Folland (Somerset)
030. A Fotherham (Northamptonshire)
031. G Fowler (Durham)
032. J E R Gellian (Lancashire)
033. M W GATTING (Middlesex)
034. D A GOCCH (Sussex)
035. S J Grayson (Yorkshire)
036. K Greenfield (Sussex)
037. J W Hall (Sussex)
038. G D Hodgson (Gloucestershire)
039. R J Harden (Somerset)
040. A N HAYHURST (Somerset)
041. D Haynes (Middlesex)
042. D D Harris (Gloucestershire)
043. S G Hinks (Gloucestershire)
044. G D Hodgson (Gloucestershire)
045. J Hodge (Surrey)
046. N Hussain (Essex)
047. S Hutton (Durham)
048. R C Iremonger (Somerset)
049. P J James (Gloucestershire)
050. P Johnson (Nottinghamshire)
051. M Keach (Hampshire)
052. S A Kettle (Yorkshire)
053. N V Knight (Essex)
054. A J LAMB (Northamptonshire)
055. M N Latham (Somerset)
056. W Lister (Durham)
057. D A Leach (Worcestershire)
058. N J Latham (Sussex)
059. J J Lewis (Essex)
060. J B Llewellyn (Surrey)
061. G D Lloyd (Lancashire)
062. J J Longley (Durham)
063. M B Lyle (Northamptonshire)
064. M A Lynch (Surrey)
065. M P Maynard (Gloucestershire)
066. A A McCall (Yorkshire)
067. T C Middleton (Hampshire)
068. A J Miles (Worcestershire)
069. T M Moody (Worcestershire)
070. H MORRIS (Gloucestershire)
071. J E Morris (Durham)
072. R S Morris (Hampshire)
073. M D MOXON (Yorkshire)
074. M C J NICHOLAS (Hampshire)
075. T J G O'Gorman (Derbyshire)
076. S P Oller (Worcestershire)
077. T L Penney (Warwickshire)
078. P R Pollard (Nottinghamshire)
079. P J Pollard (Essex)
080. M R Poot (Lancashire)
081. J D Ratcliffe (Worcestershire)
082. R B Richardson (Yorkshire)
083. C D J Robinson (Essex)
084. P E Robinson (Lancashire)
085. R T ROBINSON (Nottinghamshire)
086. A S Rollins (Derbyshire)
087. M A Roseberry (Middlesex)
088. A A Searcort (Worcestershire)
089. N Sheild (Essex)
090. B F Smith (Leicestershire)
091. J Smith (Durham)
092. R A Smith (Hampshire)
093. N J Spack (Lancashire)
094. A W Smith (Surrey)
095. D M Smith (Sussex)
096. G S Stoppel (Sussex)
097. A J STEWART (Surrey)
098. N R Taylor (Kent)
099. V P Tany (Hampshire)
100. G P Thorpe (Surrey)
101. S P Titchard (Lancashire)
102. M E Trescollick (Somerset)
103. G T Twest (Worcestershire)
104. M P Vardon (Yorkshire)
105. D M Ward (Surrey)
106. R Ward (Kent)
107. J W Warr (Northamptonshire)
108. A J Wells (Sussex)
109. C M Wells (Derbyshire)
110. W P C Weston (Worcestershire)
111. J Wicketor (Leicestershire)
112. M G N Winde (Gloucestershire)
113. A J Wright (Gloucestershire)

All-rounders (114-156)

Pick one player and a reserve from this category

114. M W Alleyne (Gloucestershire)
115. D D Allen (Sussex)
116. P BAINBRIDGE (Durham)
117. D J Capel (Northamptonshire)
118. G C Chapelle (Lancashire)
119. M A Cresswell (Sussex)
120. R B Croft (Gloucestershire)
121. A C Cummins (Durham)
122. K M Curn (Northamptonshire)
123. A Dale (Gloucestershire)
124. P A J DeFreitas (Derbyshire)
125. J E Embury (Middlesex)
126. M A Felton (Middlesex)
127. K P Evans (Nottinghamshire)
128. M A Fotherham (Middlesex)
129. M V Fleming (Kent)
130. P J Hartley (Yorkshire)
131. G A Hick (Worcestershire)
132. C L Hooper (Kent)
133. R K Illingworth (Worcestershire)
134. K D James (Hampshire)

Captains

118: P Bainebridge (all-rounder)
120: K J Baines (batsman)
121: M R Benson (batsman)
122: M A Brown (all-rounder)
123: T S Curtis (batsman)
124: M W GATTING (batsman)
125: A J Latham (batsman)
126: A J Miles (all-rounder)
127: M A Roseberry (all-rounder)
128: M A Searcort (all-rounder)
129: M A Smith (all-rounder)
130: M A Smith (all-rounder)
131: M A Smith (all-rounder)
132: M A Smith (all-rounder)
133: M A Smith (all-rounder)
134: M A Smith (all-rounder)

Overseas players

001: C J Adams (batsman)
002: J C Adams (batsman)
003: G F Archer (batsman)
004: A J Birt (batsman)
005: M A Brown (batsman)
006: C W J Athey (batsman)
007: S J Bailey (batsman)
008: J J Baines (batsman)
009: M R Benson (batsman)
010: D J Bicknell (batsman)
011: T J Birt (batsman)
012: P D Bowler (batsman)
013: N E Briers (batsman)
014: S B Brown (batsman)
015: A D Brown (batsman)
016: D Byas (batsman)
017: D C Carr (batsman)
018: P A Cobby (batsman)
019: G R Cowdrey (batsman)
020: R M F Cox (batsman)
021: M P Cresswell (batsman)
022: M A Crawley (batsman)
023: T S Curtis (batsman)
024: J A Daley (batsman)
025: W A Dessau (batsman)
026: D B D'Oliveira (batsman)
027: N H Fairbrother (batsman)
028: M A Felton (batsman)
029: N A Folland (batsman)
030: A Fotherham (batsman)
031: G Fowler (batsman)
032: J E R Gellian (batsman)
033: M W GATTING (batsman)
034: D A GOCCH (batsman)
035: S J Grayson (batsman)
036: K Greenfield (batsman)
037: J W Hall (batsman)
038: G D Hodgson (batsman)
039: R J Harden (batsman)
040: A N HAYHURST (batsman)
041: D Haynes (batsman)
042: D D Harris (batsman)
043: S G Hinks (batsman)
044: G D Hodgson (batsman)
045: J Hodge (batsman)
046: N Hussain (batsman)
047: S Hutton (batsman)
048: R C Iremonger (batsman)
049: P J James (batsman)
050: P Johnson (batsman)
051: M Keach (batsman)
052: S A Kettle (batsman)
053: N V Knight (batsman)
054: A J LAMB (batsman)
055: M N Latham (batsman)
056: W Lister (batsman)
057: D A Leach (batsman)
058: N J Latham (batsman)
059: J J Lewis (batsman)
060: J B Llewellyn (batsman)
061: G D Lloyd (batsman)
062: J J Longley (batsman)
063: M B Lyle (batsman)
064: M A Lynch (batsman)
065: M P Maynard (batsman)
066: A A McCall (batsman)
067: T C Middleton (batsman)
068: A J Miles (batsman)
069: T M Moody (batsman)
070: H MORRIS (batsman)
071: J E Morris (batsman)
072: R S Morris (batsman)
073: M D MOXON (batsman)
074: M C J NICHOLAS (batsman)
075: T J G O'Gorman (batsman)
076: S P Oller (batsman)
077: T L Penney (batsman)
078: P R Pollard (batsman)
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102: M E Trescollick (batsman)
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104: M P Vardon (batsman)
105: D M Ward (batsman)
106: R Ward (batsman)
107: J W Warr (batsman)
108: A J Wells (batsman)
109: C M Wells (batsman)
110: W P C Weston (batsman)
111: J Wicketor (batsman)
112: M G N Winde (batsman)
113: A J Wright (batsman)

Rising stars

001: C J Adams (batsman)
002: J C Adams (batsman)
003: G F Archer (batsman)
004: A J Birt (batsman)
005: M A Brown (batsman)
006: C W J Athey (batsman)
007: S J Bailey (batsman)
008: J J Baines (batsman)
009: M R Benson (batsman)
010: D J Bicknell (batsman)
011: T J Birt (batsman)
012: P D Bowler (batsman)
013: N E Briers (batsman)
014: S B Brown (batsman)
015: A D Brown (batsman)
016: D Byas (batsman)
017: D C Carr (batsman)
018: P A Cobby (batsman)
019: G R Cowdrey (batsman)
020: R M F Cox (batsman)
021: M P Cresswell (batsman)
022: M A Crawley (batsman)
023: T S Curtis (batsman)
024: J A Daley (batsman)
025: W A Dessau (batsman)
026: D B D'Oliveira (batsman)
027: N H Fairbrother (batsman)
028: M A Felton (batsman)
029: N A Folland (batsman)
030: A Fotherham (batsman)
031: G Fowler (batsman)
032: J E R Gellian (batsman)
033: M W GATTING (batsman)
034: D A GOCCH (batsman)
035: S J Grayson (batsman)
036: K Greenfield (batsman)
037: J W Hall (batsman)
038: G D Hodgson (batsman)
039: R J Harden (batsman)
040: A N HAYHURST (batsman)
041: D Haynes (batsman)
042: D D Harris (batsman)
043: S G Hinks (batsman)
044: G D Hodgson (batsman)
045: J Hodge (batsman)
046: N Hussain (batsman)
047: S Hutton (batsman)
048: R C Iremonger (batsman)
049: P J James (batsman)
050: P Johnson (batsman)
051: M Keach (batsman)
052: S A Kettle (batsman)
053: N V Knight (batsman)
054: A J LAMB (batsman)
055: M N Latham (batsman)
056: W Lister (batsman)
057: D A Leach (batsman)
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063: M B Lyle (batsman)
064: M A Lynch (batsman)
065: M P Maynard (batsman)
066: A A McCall (batsman)
067: T C Middleton (batsman)
068: A J Miles (batsman)
069: T M Moody (batsman)
070: H MORRIS (batsman)
071: J E Morris (batsman)
072: R S Morris (batsman)
073: M D MOXON (batsman)
074: M C J NICHOLAS (batsman)
075: T J G O'Gorman (batsman)
076: S P Oller (batsman)
077: T L Penney (batsman)
078: P R Pollard (batsman)
079: P J Pollard (batsman)
080: M R Poot (batsman)
081: J D Ratcliffe (batsman)
082: R B Richardson (batsman)
083: C D J Robinson (batsman)
084: P E Robinson (batsman)
085: R T ROBINSON (batsman)
086: A S Rollins (batsman)
087: M A Roseberry (batsman)
088: A A Searcort (batsman)
089: N Sheild (batsman)
090: B F Smith (batsman)
091: J Smith (batsman)
092: R A Smith (batsman)
093: N J Spack (batsman)
094: A W Smith (batsman)
095: D M Smith (batsman)
096: G S Stoppel (batsman)
097: A J STEWART (batsman)
098: N R Taylor (batsman)
099: V P Tany (batsman)
100: G P Thorpe (batsman)
101: S P Titchard (batsman)
102: M E Trescollick (batsman)
103: G T Twest (batsman)
104: M P Vardon (batsman)
105: D M Ward (batsman)
106: R Ward (batsman)
107: J W Warr (batsman)
108: A J Wells (batsman)
109: C M Wells (batsman)
110: W P C Weston (batsman)
111: J Wicketor (batsman)
112: M G N Winde (batsman)
113: A J Wright (batsman)

Wicketkeepers (157-176)

Pick one player and a reserve from this category

157. A N Ayrton (Hampshire)
158. R J Bickley (Yorkshire)
159. R J Brown (Middlesex)
160. N D Burns (Somerset)
161. S N French (Northamptonshire)
162. M A Gammell (Essex)
163. W K Hogg (Lancashire)
164. G J Kersey (Surrey)
165. K M Kniskern (Derbyshire)
166. S Marsh (Kent)
167. C P Metson (Gloucestershire)
168. P Moore (Sussex)
169. P A Neeson (Lancashire)
170. K J Piper (Warwickshire)
171. S J Rhodes (Worcestershire)
172. D Ripley (Northamptonshire)
173. R J Rolles (Essex)
174. R C Russell (Gloucestershire)
175. C W Scott (Durham)
176. R J Turner (Somerset)

Bowlers (177-266)

Pick four players and a reserve from this category

177. J A Allford (Nottinghamshire)
178. C E L Ambrose (Northamptonshire)
179. S J W Andrew (Essex)
180. A M Bampton (Gloucestershire)
181. M C Ball (Gloucestershire)
182. A A Barnett (Lancashire)
183. S R Barwick (Gloucestershire)
184. S Batten (Gloucestershire)
185. J D Batty (Yorkshire)
186. J E Benjamin (Surrey)
187. W K M Benjamin (Hampshire)
188. P J Berry (Durham)
189. M P Bicknell (Surrey)
190. J Boaling (Surrey)
191. M Broadhurst (Yorkshire)
192. S J E Brown (Durham)
193. N A Butcher (Surrey)
194. A R Caddick (Somerset)
195. J H Chis (Essex)
196. C A Cook (Hampshire)
197. N G B Cook (Northamptonshire)
198. K E Cooper (Gloucestershire)
199. A C Coston (Northamptonshire)
200. N G Cowan (Hampshire)
201. R P Davis (Warwickshire)
202. M A Eatham (Kent)
203. R M Ellison (Kent)
204. M G Fend-Buss (Nottinghamshire)
205. D P Fint (Hampshire)
206. M J Foster (Yorkshire)
207. A R C Fraser (Middlesex)
208. D D Gibson (Gloucestershire)
209. S J Gifford (Derbyshire)
210. S H Gifford (Sussex)
211. D Gough (Yorkshire)
212. D A Grawley (Durham)
213. F A Gwynn (Derbyshire)
214. D W Headley (Kent)
215. E E Hemmings (Sussex)
216. A P Hogg (Kent)
217. M C Ikin (Essex)
218. P W Jarvis (Sussex)
219. M Jean-Jacques (Hampshire)
220. R L Johnson (Middlesex)
221. M S Kasprowicz (Essex)
222. N M Kitchard (Surrey)
223. D R Law (Sussex)
224. M J McCague (Kent)
225. D E Malcolm (Derbyshire)
226. N A Mollender (Somerset)
227. P J Martin (Lancashire)
228. R J Mear (Hampshire)
229. D Mells (Lancashire)
230. O H Mortensen (Derbyshire)
231. D M Mulkally (Leicestershire)
232. T A Munton (Warwickshire)
233. A J Murphy (Surrey)
234. J A North (Sussex)
235. G J Parsons (Leicestershire)
236. M M Patel (Kent)
237. R M Pearson (Essex)
238. A L Pennington (Northamptonshire)
239. D B Pennell (Nottinghamshire)
- 2

Tesco joins cut-price beer hop across the Channel

BY TIM JONES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE cross-Channel super-market drinks war intensified yesterday when the Tesco supermarket chain confirmed that it would follow the Sainsbury lead by opening a store in Calais.

Thousands of day trippers already take advantage of special offers by the ferry companies to travel to French supermarkets and load up their cars with cut-price wine and beer.

Some travellers make the crossing by coach and pay for a lorry to follow them which they fill with cases of drink. This avoids the risk of being prosecuted for dangerously overloading their cars.

While Tesco would confirm only that it had signed a lease to open a store near the French entrance to the Channel tunnel, it did not deny a report that its store would sell only wine and beer.

Tesco spent £150 million on an 85 per cent share in the French Cateau supermarket chain last May. It is not known whether the Calais store would be named Tesco or use the Cateau logo.

The further move to provide day trippers with the opportunity of buying cut-price alcohol was condemned by the Brewers and Licensed Retailers Association, which said it would cost hundreds of jobs.

The brewers said that apart from the loss to retailers, cross-Channel shopping was costing the Government millions of pounds in lost duty.

A spokesman said: "The difference in excise duty must be equalised. It is ludicrous

that British people are tempted to cross the Channel to buy at cheaper prices beer which is probably brewed in this country.

"This shows how ridiculous the current tax situation is when a British retailer goes to France to sell cheap beer to Britons."

Since European Community trade barriers were abolished last year, lower taxes have meant that drink on the Continent is cheaper. Drinkers have been allowed to bring home virtually unlimited quantities for personal consumption.

Before yesterday's announcement, Tesco had said that it expected to lose £35 million over the next 12 months because of the tax gap.

It is estimated that British travellers to Calais spend up to £300 million a year stocking up on cheap drink.

Price differences at the Sainsbury French store, with United Kingdom prices given first, are estimated at: Sainsbury's dry white wine £1.99/£1.

Bottle of Bell's Whisky (1 litre) £14.99/£12.48.

Case of John Smith's beer (24 cans) £23.10/£16.88.

Case of draught Guinness (24 cans) £26.70/£20.48.

French-brewed beer would be even cheaper.

Eurolunnel announced the signing of its first retail partnerships with Boots The Chemist, W.H. Smith and T.E. Rack. The companies will be opening their shops at the new UK passenger terminal at Folkestone.

Vicar is jailed for sex assaults

A VICAR who sexually assaulted boys who visited his home was jailed for four years yesterday.

Stephen Brooks, 39, vicar of St Paul's, Sketty, was told by Judge Stephens at Swansea Crown Court: "You were destined for the highest position in the church but you have caused immense harm and anguish." At the time of his arrest Brooks was to be made a canon.

Brooks attacked his victims, now aged 11 to 16, over seven years. Patrick Griffiths, for the prosecution, said he would abuse two boys simultaneously and take them to bed after their parents allowed them to stay on weekend visits.

He said that Brooks's integrity was unquestioned. "He would provide food and drink and such treatment reinforced their feelings of affection and admiration. But it also made it more difficult for them to reveal what was really happening."

"All the complainants come from excellent family backgrounds and all the parents believed their children were safe."



Bill Haley rehearsing at the Dominion Theatre in London before the first date on his 1957 British tour

Rock turns full circle 40 years on

BY ALISON ROBERTS
ARTS REPORTER

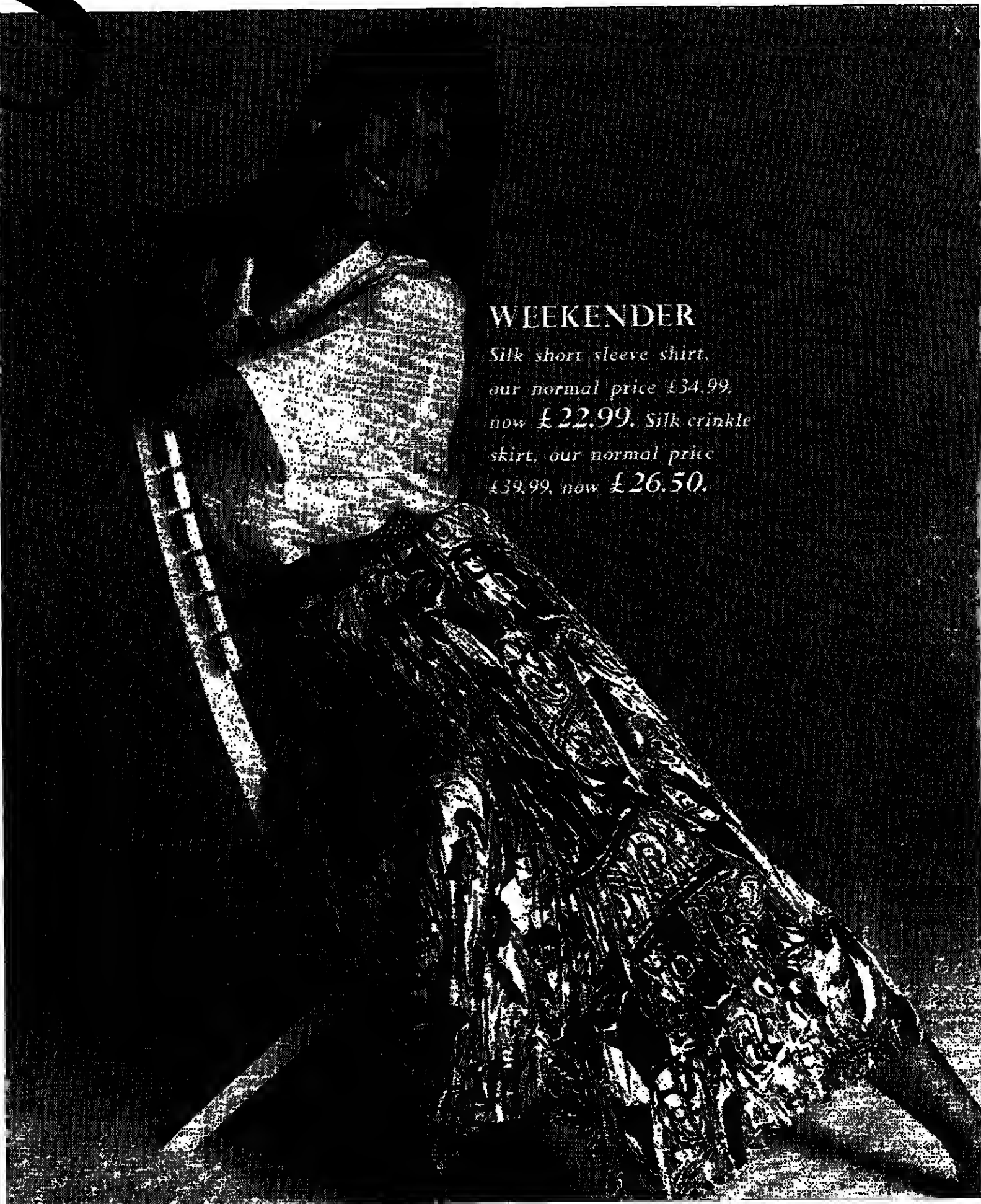
FORTY years ago today a baby-faced 29-year-old singer walked into a New York studio to record his new number. Although no one knew it, April 12, 1954, was an historic day: the track was called *Rock Around the Clock* and Bill Haley had just given birth to rock and roll.

Within two years, British parents were locking up their daughters and Haley was the unlikely leader of a new phenomenon — teenage insurrection.

Yesterday, the latest representative of teenage rebellion, Kurt Cobain lead singer of the American grunge band Nirvana, was being mourned by thousands of fans after his suicide on Friday. Two Nirvana albums jumped more than 50 places in the charts yesterday, based on Saturday's frantic buying.

Although Haley, and his group the Comets, were soon overshadowed by Elvis Presley and the Marlon Brando/James Dean clones, they are still widely credited with beginning the rock and roll culture. Haley died in 1981, from natural causes.

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*Certain merchandise will be excluded from this offer. Certain merchandise not available in all stores.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Blindfold wizard

IN THE 1790s, when the great French player Andre Philidor came to London and contested three games simultaneously against amateurs — with the master having no sight of the board — it was considered a miraculous achievement by commentators of the day. It is palpably more difficult to play one blindfold game against a player of grandmaster strength. In the recently concluded tournament in Monaco 50 per cent of the games were played under blindfold conditions. In this clash Vishy Anand, the tournament winner, displays the mental mastery which enabled him to triumph.

White: Zsuzsa Polgar
Black: Vishy Anand
Monaco, April 1994

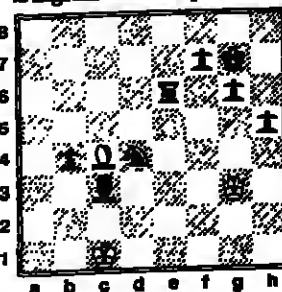
Grinfeld Defence

- | | | |
|----|------|-------|
| 1 | d4 | Nf6 |
| 2 | Nf3 | e5 |
| 3 | c4 | Bg7 |
| 4 | g3 | d5 |
| 5 | Bg2 | dxc4 |
| 6 | O-O | c8 |
| 7 | Qc2 | b5 |
| 8 | Nbd2 | O-O |
| 9 | b3 | cxb3 |
| 10 | Qxc3 | Bb7 |
| 11 | a4 | a6 |
| 12 | Ba3 | Nbd7 |
| 13 | e4 | Nb6 |
| 14 | a5 | Nc4 |
| 15 | Rac1 | Rc8 |
| 16 | Rf1 | c5 |
| 17 | Qxc5 | Qxc5 |
| 18 | c8 | Rxc5 |
| 19 | Rxc5 | Bxc6 |
| 20 | Bxc7 | Rc8 |
| 21 | Ne5 | Rc5 |
| 22 | Qxd5 | Rc7 |
| 23 | Qd1 | Qxd1+ |
| 24 | Rd1 | Rc5 |
| 25 | Qxd1 | |

- | | | |
|----|------|------|
| 26 | d7 | Nc7 |
| 27 | Qxd7 | Rc1+ |
| 28 | Bf1 | Rb1 |
| 29 | Qc2 | Rb2 |
| 30 | Kg2 | Rc2 |
| 31 | Qc8 | Rc2 |
| 32 | Qd4 | Rc2 |
| 33 | Qd1 | Rc2 |
| 34 | Qd4 | Rc2 |
| 35 | Qc8 | Rc2 |
| 36 | Qd5 | Rc2 |
| 37 | Qd4 | Rc2 |
| 38 | h4 | Rc2 |
| 39 | Qd8 | Rc2 |
| 40 | Bc2 | Rc2 |
| 41 | Qb3 | Rc2 |
| 42 | Bf1 | Rc2 |
| 43 | Qc8 | Rc2 |
| 44 | Qb8 | Rc2 |
| 45 | Qe5+ | Rc2 |
| 46 | Kg1 | Rc2 |
| 47 | Bh3 | Rc2 |
| 48 | Qc5 | Rc2 |
| 49 | Bg2 | Rc2 |
| 50 | Kf1 | Rc2 |
| 51 | Qd7 | Rc2 |
| 52 | Bd5 | Rc2 |
| 53 | Kc1 | Rc2 |
| 54 | Kc1 | Rc2 |
| 55 | Qc8 | Rc2 |
| 56 | Qc8 | Rc2 |
| 57 | Qg3 | Rc2 |
| 58 | Bc4 | Rc2 |
| 59 | Bxc6 | Rc2 |
| 60 | Bc4 | Rc2 |

White resigns

Diagram of final position



Black threatens 61 ... Re1+ and if 61 Bxc6 then 61 ... Ne2+ follows.

Winning move, page 44

SITE AND PRESS NOTICE

TBV Power Limited: Barry CHP Project

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO CONSTRUCT A GAS FIRED COMBINED HEAT AND POWER PLANT AT BARRY CHEMICAL COMPLEX, BARRY, SOUTH WALES, FOR THE ON SITE PRODUCTION OF ELECTRICITY AND STEAM.

We hereby give notice that TBV Power Limited ("the Company") has applied to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry for consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 to construct a Combined Heat and Power plant at Barry, South Wales and for a direction under Section 90(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, that planning permission for the development be deemed to be granted.

The project is referred to as the Barry CHP Project and would have a capacity of approximately 60 Megawatts electric.

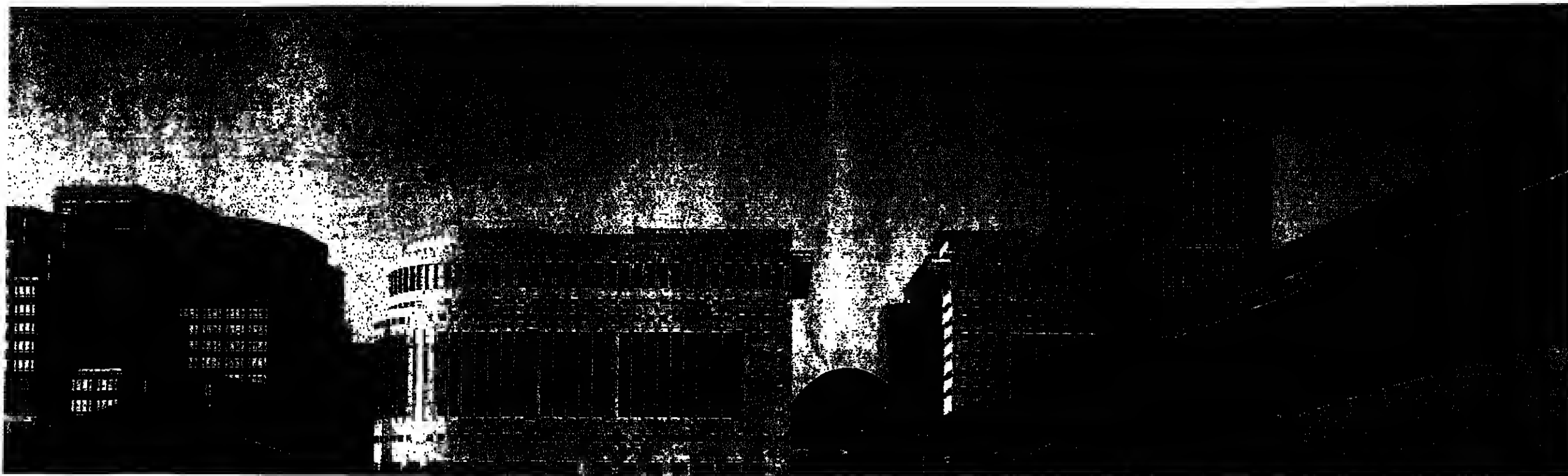
A copy of the application, with a plan showing the land to which it relates, together with a copy of the Environmental Statement discussing the Company's proposals in more detail and presenting an analysis of the environmental implications are available for inspection during the normal office hours at the offices of the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council Planning Department, Civic Offices, Hobbs Road, Barry CF63 3AR and South Glamorgan County Council Planning Department, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff CF1 5UW.

In addition, copies of the full Environmental Statement may be obtained for a price of £20.00 while stocks last by writing to Rendel Planning, 61 Southwark Street, London SE1 1SA.

Any objections should be made in writing to The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Electricity and Nuclear Fuel Division "E", Room 2.3.15, 1 Palace Street, London SW1A 5HE, prior to 16th May 1994.

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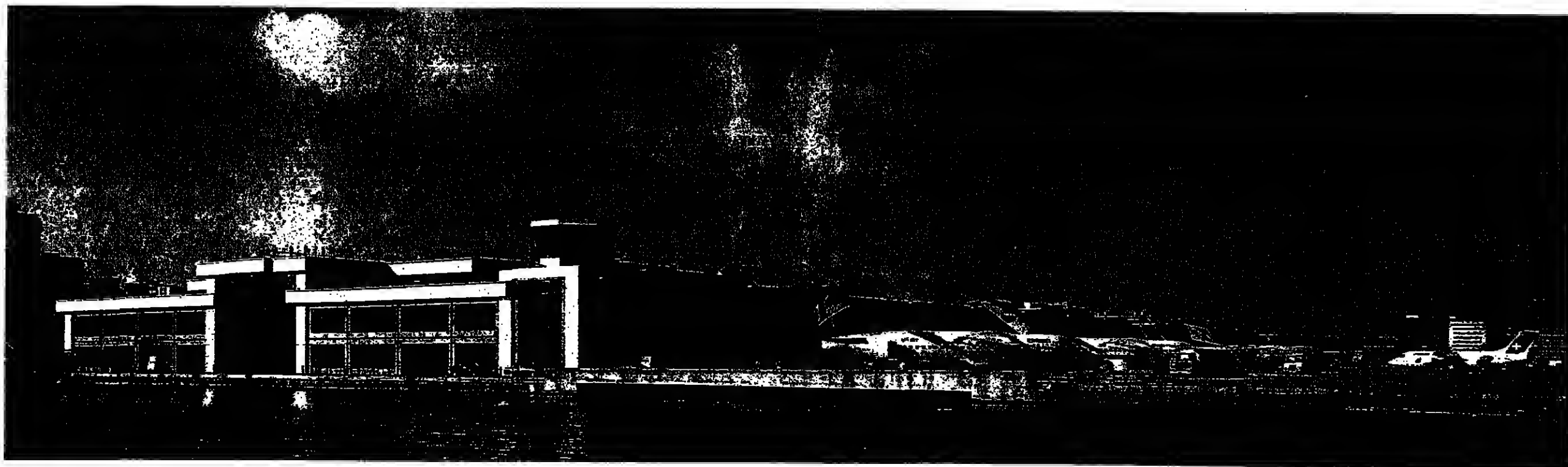
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Skin cancer vaccine has 70% success rate

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

SCIENTISTS have developed a vaccine which has proved successful against a deadly form of skin cancer, it was announced yesterday.

In tests, the vaccine was found to be 70 per cent effective after three years on patients suffering from melanoma, the most aggressive form of skin cancer, which is fatal in advanced cases and which has doubled in the last 10 years.

Professor Karol Sikora, a cancer expert at the Hammer-smith Hospital in west London, said that the results appeared to be "very good".

The vaccine, details of which were presented at the annual American Association for Cancer Research in San Francisco, has been developed by a team at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. It has been tested on patients with malignant melanomas that had spread to the lymph nodes. Typically, 30 to 90 per cent of patients whose melanomas are so advanced develop further tumours in other areas and die.

About 50 patients who had

undergone surgery to remove melanomas were vaccinated. David Bard, of the university's division of neoplastic diseases, told the meeting that after vaccination 60 per cent were tumour-free three years later. Although 10 per cent did develop further tumours, these were surgically removed and the patients had failed to develop any more.

The findings compared with a control group of patients who were not given the vaccine: only 20 per cent were still tumour-free.

Prof Sikora said it was hoped even better vaccines would be available soon, with the approach British research teams were taking.

The Imperial Cancer Research Fund's Oxford unit wanted to try injecting genes directly into tumour cells which boost the body's immune system. It is thought the cancer, which kills about 1,000 Britons a year, could be attacked by the body's disease-fighting cells if they could recognise the tumour.

Prof Sikora said: "The problem has been that the immune

system in patients just does not recognise these cancer cells as foreign."

The new vaccine indicates the technique is successful. The American researchers made the tumour cells "visible" to the immune system using dinitrophenyl (DNP).

Tumour cells were taken from patients and coated with DNP. The patients were then vaccinated with the coated tumour cells so that the chemical would act as a flag signalling that the cells were foreign invaders.

It also appears that once the body recognised the chemically-treated melanoma cells as being alien, the immune system acted the same way on all the skin cancers.

Upright tanning machines are no safer than more conventional ones, despite manufacturers' claims, according to *Which? Way to Health*. The magazine found that the total amount of radiation was the same, pointing out: "All ultra violet rays from tanning are potentially harmful."

Body and Mind, page 17



The daffodils and the debutantes are out so, despite the weather, spring has arrived and with it the start of the London social season. Once it was signalled by the Berkeley Square Ball, but that event expired several years ago. In its place yesterday was this charge across Hyde Park by final-year schoolgirls, dressed by Harrods and previewing a fashion show at The Berkeley last night in aid of the NSPCC. The children's charity hopes to raise £8,000 towards a London hostel for young runaways and a help centre for child victims of sexual abuse

Firms face £1m bills to safeguard river

By Nick Nuttall, Environment Correspondent

PLANS for Britain's first water protection zone, designed to protect the River Dee and two million water customers from hazardous industrial pollution, have provoked a fierce dispute.

The scheme, being planned by the National Rivers Authority and backed by water companies and the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, was to be in place later this year but has been criticised by the Confederation of British Industry.

Under the scheme, industries will send the authority a list of chemicals they hold and how they are stored. The authority will analyse the pollution threat and issue a certificate of compliance. About 100,000 of 700 companies may have to fit anti-pollution equipment or make improvements to qualify for a licence. Some may have to spend £1 million to meet the regulations. The zone idea has been welcomed by water companies and many industries in the Dee area.

However, Dr Elizabeth Haywood, director of the Welsh CBI, said the cost of the proposal will force businesses away. Her suggestions were yesterday rejected by the authority which says the zone would place minimal extra costs on industry.

The authority, which has made a formal request to the Environment Secretary to set up the zone, said that another big pollution incident would far outstrip the costs to industry of the scheme. The river's salmon fishery alone is worth up to £9 million a year.

The decision to designate the Dee a protection zone comes after a pollution incident ten years ago when chemicals leaked from an industrial site in Cymru, polluting the river.

Water protection zones are common in Europe and the United States but this was planned to be Britain's first. Between 1990 and 1993 the Dee, one of Europe's most important rivers for drinking water, had 155 pollution incidents, 17 of them serious.

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Master sues fox hunt

The Albrighton Hunt is being sued by its former master, who was dismissed after suffering a stroke while trying to stop his hounds attacking deer on the Earl of Bradford's estate in Shropshire.

David Parker, 55, is seeking £12,250 from the hunt, which he said sent a letter terminating his contract while he was still in hospital. Mr Parker, of Worcester, told Stafford County Court: "I was devastated, all I thought about was hunting. It was what kept me going." The case continues.

Tattooist fined

Richard Barrow was fined £400 for tattooing a girl aged 13 and her brother, 14. Barrow, 34, of Sunderland, admitted tattooing minors.

Car blaze

A man and woman burned to death after a car hit a tree near Eye, Cambridgeshire. The Metro had been stolen.

Guard dies

A security guard, Ernest Rodgers, 54, died after falling 30ft through a ceiling during a routine check in Swindon.

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Attack raises fears of broader conflict between nuclear powers after clash over Black Sea Fleet

Ukraine raiders seize Russian navy officers

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

UKRAINIAN forces stormed a Russian naval installation in the Black Sea port of Odessa at the weekend, beating up and arresting several Russian sailors, including three senior officers.

It was one of the most serious outbreaks of violence between Russian and Ukrainian forces serving in the disputed Black Sea Fleet, which was divided between the two countries last year. It raised fresh fears of a broader conflict erupting between the two nuclear powers, which have seen a recent resurgence of nationalist sentiment.

According to Russian naval sources, in part confirmed by Ukrainian authorities, the latest incident occurred on Sunday night when 120 armed Ukrainians attacked Russian shore facilities, including an armoury, communications centre and security office.

The Russian Navy said that servicemen and their families, including children, were in-



jured during the operation, when the installation was sealed off and the staff placed under arrest. The commander of the facility, Captain Oleg Fokistov, and several officers were led away handcuffed from the base. Reports from the Ukraine said that about 40 other special forces troops had also sealed off a second Rus-

sian naval centre just outside Odessa. Ukraine said that Sunday's action was provoked by an incident on Friday when a Russian naval vessel, *Chelken*, was pursued out of the port by Ukrainian forces after it had loaded navigational equipment in Odessa and moved it to the Black Sea fleet headquarters in Sebastopol.

The Ukrainian Defence Ministry said that the three Russian officers arrested on Sunday had been involved in the operation. "They ordered men under their command to threaten Ukrainian sailors with arms and issued orders to fire without warning," the ministry said. "The actions of these officers created a real threat to safe navigation in the Odessa area."

Felix Gromov, Russia's naval commander, described the incident as a flagrant violation of the bilateral agreements to share the 300-ship fleet and issued a warning that the Ukraine had created an "ex-

plosive situation". A Russian naval spokesman singled out Vice-Admiral Vladimir Beskrovainy, commander of the Ukrainian Navy, for blame, saying that it was inconceivable that he was unaware of the operation since at the time of the attack he was in Odessa aboard the command ship, *Slavutich*.

The incident is scheduled to be debated in the Russian parliament when it is expected that ultra-nationalist deputies will demand that punitive action be taken against Kiev. A senior Russian diplomat involved in relations with Ukraine was quoted yesterday as warning that Moscow's response will be tough. "The Odessa incident is the most large-scale and daring anti-Russian action ever carried out by Ukraine," the official was quoted as saying. "Obviously, the Russian Foreign Ministry's note of protest did not produce the desired impression on our Ukrainian



Russian sailors of the Black Sea fleet raising their hands to indicate readiness to participate in a gas attack exercise. Tension has mounted with the Ukrainian raid in which Russian officers were seized in Odessa

partners. Russia will be respected, when it rigidly responds to anti-Russian moves."

Last night unofficial results in Ukraine's first post-Soviet general election gave the Communists and their Socialist and Agrarian allies 110 of parliament's 450 seats — mostly in the country's industrial east, where commitment to the

Ukrainian state is the most suspect. Moderate nationalists elected about 60 members, mostly in their strongholds of western and central Ukraine. Extreme nationalists, including members of paramilitary groups who paraded through city centres during the campaign, won five. Independents with unclear political orientation captured many of the

remaining seats. One of the most influential was led by the country's most popular politician, Leonid Kuchma, the former Prime Minister.

The Communists swept through eastern Ukraine's industrial heartland, capitalising on voter disenchantment after more than two years of economic decline. Leftist parties elected 28 deputies in

Donetsk, centre of the Donbass coalfield, 11 in Lugansk further north and eight in the pro-Russian Crimean peninsula. "This is not a victory for left-wing forces but rather the reflection of reality. People want stability," the Socialist Party said. "We have to be careful that public opinion has become more radical on the basis of geography."

Greek terror group targets Ark Royal

FROM MALCOLM BRABANT IN ATHENS

BRITISH companies and educational institutions in Greece have been warned to increase their security after a failed attempt by a left-wing terrorist group to attack the aircraft carrier *HMS Ark Royal*.

Two rockets and two plastic launching tubes were found in a disused timber warehouse yesterday in Piraeus harbour near which the *Ark Royal* had been moored since the end of last month while on a break from patrol duties off the Croatian coast. The carrier left port yesterday.

A caller claiming to represent the group, November 17, told the Athens radio station Sky that it had tried and failed to attack the ship. He blamed a poor electronic connection for the failure of the ignition device. Heavy rain last week could have prevented the attack.

After the call, Athens police searched areas around the harbour but failed to find any rockets until a second anonymous caller telephoned police headquarters and said that there were "strange objects" in the warehouse. It is thought that the 3.5m rockets were part

of an ammunition haul stolen by November 17 during a raid on an army base near the northern city of Larissa.

The organisation yesterday claimed responsibility for two "successful" rocket attacks against American and Dutch insurance companies in the northern suburbs of Athens, causing some damage but no casualties. In the wake of these attacks, and two explosions at French and German educational institutions earlier this year, the British embassy in Athens has given a warning to banks, insurance companies and the British Council to be on their guard.

November 17 has yet to provide a motive, but it is assumed that it selected targets belonging to countries which, in Greek eyes, have supported the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia in its long-running dispute with Athens over recognition. November 17 has been operational for nearly 20 years and has tried to project a Robin Hood image, choosing targets such as American servicemen, that might endear it to populist nationalist opinion.



The British aircraft carrier, *HMS Ark Royal*, which sailed from Piraeus yesterday

Italian president calls for unity

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

PRESIDENT Scalfaro of Italy called for national unity yesterday as Silvio Berlusconi, the media tycoon, pledged to place his business interests in an independent trust if he becomes Prime Minister.

The head of state warned of the dangers of separatism threatening Italy in a speech at Ferentino, near Rome, as newspapers speculated that Signor Berlusconi would make Umberto Bossi, the devolutionist Northern League leader, his Deputy Prime Minister. Signor Berlusconi is expected to form a cabinet after parliament is convened on Friday. Newspapers speculated that the television mogul had also promised the Interior Ministry to the xenophobic league, meaning it would have control over the intelligence services and police.

President Scalfaro's speech was a clear message to Signor Berlusconi to keep the league on a tight rein, political analysts said. The President is expected to name

Signor Berlusconi as Prime Minister designate later this week after which he would go to parliament for a confidence vote.

Signor Scalfaro was visiting Ferentino to commemorate the anniversary of the Nazi execution in 1944 of an anti-Fascist priest, Don Giuseppe Morosini. "History cut off a number of lives so that the principles that are fundamental to our constitution could return to life — liberty and unity," he said.

Signor Berlusconi and Signor Bossi have caused widespread concern over their plans to devolve political and financial power. Constitutionalists warn this could affect the capacity of the state to function.

Yesterday Signor Berlusconi again said he was ready to curb his private interests, including dilution of his control over his Fininvest holding company to prevent a conflict if he becomes head of government. He said he accepted the American notion of a blind trust.

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A high-contrast, black and white image of the American flag. The image is dominated by a field of white stars on a black background. The stars are arranged in a grid-like pattern, though some are slightly offset or missing, giving it a distressed or stencil-like appearance. In the upper right corner, there are horizontal stripes, also in high contrast, suggesting the top right portion of the flag. The overall effect is graphic and stark.

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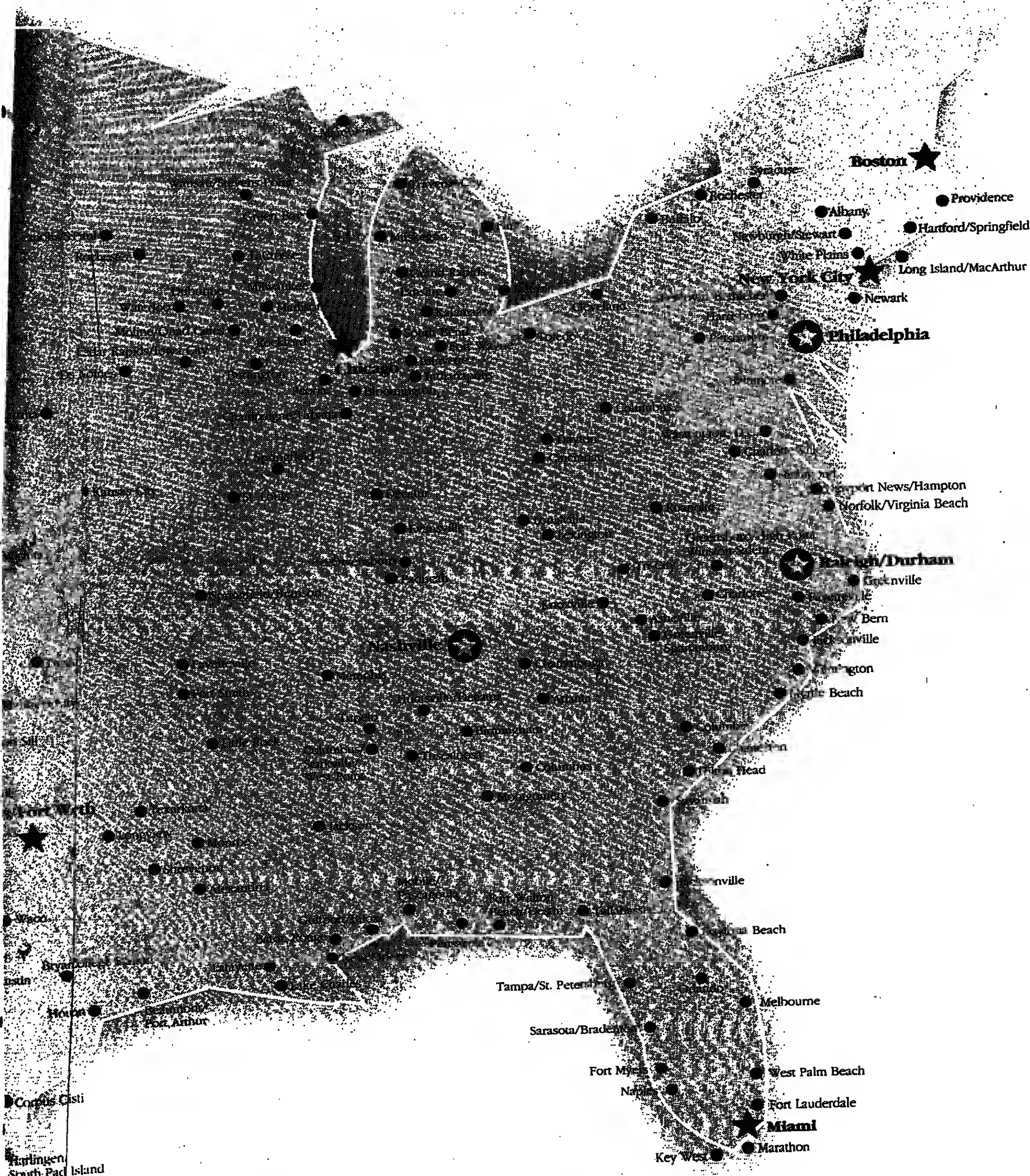


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3. This city is also known as "The Big Apple."
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4. This gateway is located in North Carolina, the state
where the Wright Brothers made their inaugural flight.
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Furious Moscow condemns 'ridiculous' Nato action and demands Security Council meeting

Clinton fails to placate Yeltsin over air strikes

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

RUSSIA reacted angrily yesterday to Nato's air strikes against Bosnian Serb forces in Gorazde, complaining that it had not been consulted and warning the West that it could become sucked into the Balkans conflict.

Speaking as he set off on a visit to Spain, a visibly emotional President Yeltsin indicated that he had exchanged harsh words with President Clinton in Washington over what he called a "ridiculous" raid. He was particularly upset that he had been excluded from the decision to attack the Serbs, even though Russian troops are on the ground in Bosnia and Russia is a permanent member of the UN Security Council, the body which sanctioned the use of force.

"I insisted to Clinton time and again that such decisions cannot be taken without prior consultation between the US and Russia. They cannot be,"

said the grim-faced Russian leader, who added that Moscow would demand a UN Security Council meeting. "This must be clarified because it all happened at night," Mr Yeltsin said.

President Clinton sought to placate Mr Yeltsin during the phone call in which he said he had assumed the UN had given advance warning of Sunday's air strikes to all nations with peacekeepers in Bosnia, including Russia.

Mr Clinton acknowledged that Mr Yeltsin was upset, but said he had explained that air strikes to protect UN peacekeepers had been authorised by the UN and that there was no time for further consultations once Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose, the UN commander in Bosnia, formally asked for air support. Mr Clinton reaffirmed that there should be "close co-ordination with the Russians", who would have a "critical role to play", if peace talks are resumed.

Madeline Albright, the American Ambassador to the UN, dismissed Mr Yeltsin's demand for a Security Council session. "The Russians think that this ought to be back in the Security Council. The truth is that others do not think so," she said.

Last night President Clinton met his senior national security advisers as Washington waited in apprehension to see whether Nato's second air strike in two days would halt the Serbs' shelling of Gorazde. Senior Congressmen mostly expressed support for Mr Clinton's decision to approve the strikes, but it was clear that the President would face some extremely tough decisions if the Serbs continued their offensive. Officials called the situation "tense and very uncertain".

The unanswered question swirling around the capital was whether the US and the UN, having made a show of force, were irrevocably committed to saving Gorazde, a UN-designated "safe haven". If the answer was yes, and limited air strikes failed to deter Serb aggression, heavier military intervention would be required, raising the dreaded prospect of the US and its allies being sucked deeper into the conflict.

In Moscow it appeared that the only way out for Russia would be to try to salvage a diplomatic coup from the fighting in Gorazde, similar to the settlement successfully mediated in Sarajevo two months ago by Vitali Churkin, the trouble-shooting envoy. This time, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Moscow proposed that Serb forces withdrawing from the town be withdrawn. Muslim forces disarmed and the entire area brought under the control of UN peacekeepers.

Second strike, page 1
Lawrence Freedman, page 18
Leading article, page 19



A Swedish UN soldier facing Muslim refugees from Gorazde demonstrating outside UN headquarters in Sarajevo yesterday

Bombing raids against Serbs followed to letter UN mandate on limited action

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

SUNDAY'S air strike in Bosnia and yesterday's attack followed to the letter the United Nations mandate allowing limited action in support of UN personnel whose lives are at risk.

Yesterday's air strike came after a second request for close air support from the UN military observers in the city after they came under fire from a Serb T55 tank launching shells into the centre of the city from less than two miles away. The same T55 had been firing into the city the day before, initiating the first request for air support. However, the weather and ground conditions were so bad that the two American F16Cs were unable to get a clear view of the target and the pilots were given a second

■ The Serbs ignored repeated warnings to stop shelling the Muslim enclave of Gorazde. Authorisation for air strikes was given in just 25 minutes

option — the Serb artillery command centre about seven miles southwest of Gorazde. The tank only survived another 24 hours. In yesterday's attack, it was destroyed by three bombs as it was firing on Gorazde.

In the lead-up to Sunday's strike the Serbs received two warnings to stop shelling. The first came in a letter from Lieutenant Colonel Simon Shadbolt, Royal Marine Military Assistant to Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose, UN commander in Bosnia.

In his letter to Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb

leader, and to General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb Army commander, Lt-Col Shadbolt wrote that he had been instructed by General Rose to warn that unless "all artillery fire stopped", there would be no prospect of the peace process continuing. He also warned that General Rose would seek authorisation to conduct air strikes.

At 1620 local time, the T55 tank began firing into the centre of the city and artillery shells continued to land on the Muslim enclave. At 1630, Captain Nick Costello, General Rose's interpreter, rang

the Bosnian Serb Army headquarters at Pale and gave a second warning, which was ignored.

General Rose immediately called the UN Protection Force headquarters in Zagreb and asked for authorisation for close air support for the UN military observers in Gorazde from Lieutenant General Bertrand de Lapresle, overall commander of UN forces in the former Yugoslavia.

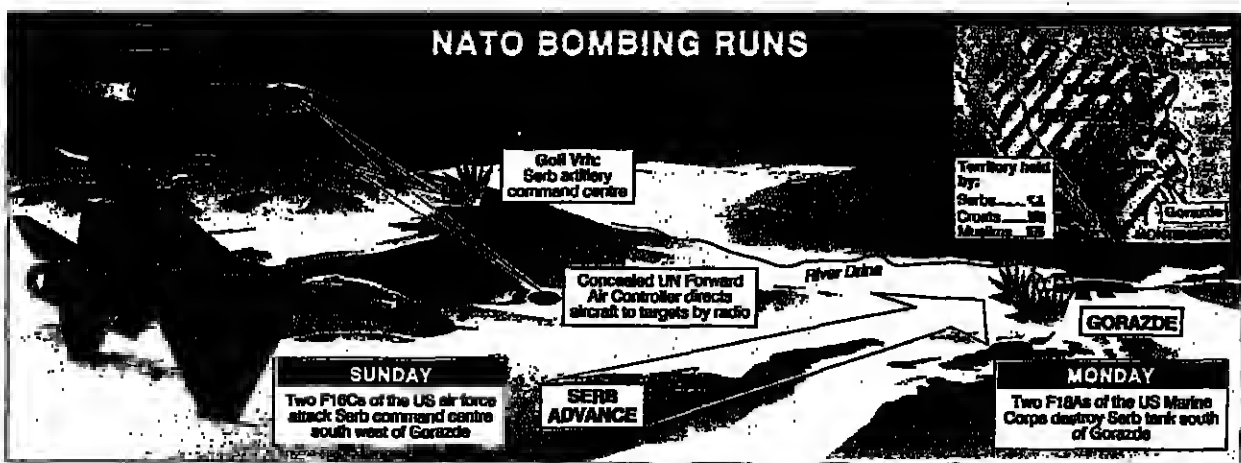
Political approval was given at 1655 by Yasushi Akashi, the UN special envoy. The authorisation procedure, which used to take a minimum of three hours, had taken just 25 minutes. However, the weather was so bad that the air strike had to be delayed. Two F16Cs of the US Air Force, based at Aviano in Italy, were on patrol ready for the weather to clear. At 1822,

one of the F16Cs dropped a 500lb "dumb" [unguided] bomb on to the Serb artillery command centre set on a hillside on the Goli Vrh mountain just over seven miles south southwest of Gorazde. The command post consisted of "soft skin" and armoured vehicles, and tents. At 1826, the second F16C dropped two more 500lb bombs on to the same target.

Unguided bombs were used because the UN forward air controllers supported by SAS soldiers, all dog into covert positions within sight of the Serb targets, had sent grid references and a description of the command centre by radio to the Nato pilots.

In the second strike two F16Cs from the US Marine Corps, also based at Aviano, flew low passes over Serb artillery positions at 1845 to try to force them to stop shelling Gorazde. Fifteen minutes earlier the T55 tank had fired five shells into the centre of Gorazde.

At 1225 General Mladic was warned to stop and between 1236 and 1300, the two American aircraft flew low again, this time firing illumination flares. At 1407 the order was given to provide close air support to the UN personnel. Mr Akashi gave his approval, and at 1419 the two F16Cs targeted the T55 tank which was located just under two miles due south of the city. Three 500lb bombs were dropped, and the tank destroyed.



SAS plays pivotal role in Gorazde pocket

BY MICHAEL EVANS

THE involvement of the SAS in Bosnia marks the first time that British special forces have played such a crucial role in a United Nations peacekeeping operation. A small unit of about seven SAS men is believed to be in and around Gorazde, engaged in covert reconnaissance of Serb positions and providing detailed assessments of the capabilities of the Serb and Muslim BiH forces. Their arrival in the war zone several weeks ago was kept a close secret after a request for an SAS

unit from Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose, a former commander of 22 SAS Regiment and Director Special Forces.

UN forces are not supposed to gather intelligence because as peacekeepers they are neutral and, theoretically, should have no need of precise details of the positions, troop strengths and weapons locations of the warring factions. However, when authorisation was granted for the SAS to be deployed in Bosnia, their contribution paid immediate dividends. General Rose sent a unit of about ten SAS men to Maglaj in

northern Bosnia, where the Serbs were continuing to shell the Muslim-dominated city and block the aid route from the south. They carried out ground reconnaissance and sent General Rose a full assessment.

When the Serbs withdrew from their positions in the south after being tactically outmanoeuvred by Croat troops who had stopped colluding with the Serbs and swapped their allegiance to the Muslims, the SAS are believed to have been instrumental in bringing in Coldstream Guards and Light Dragoon soldiers to Maglaj to take up residence before

the Serbs could take any action. In Gorazde, one of the SAS men was reportedly injured in the Serb shelling. They are understood to have been infiltrated into the besieged city as UN military observers on Wednesday last week after General Rose's attempt to drive to Gorazde was stopped by the Serbs at Pale, south of Sarajevo.

The SAS are uniquely trained for covert reconnaissance, one of the roles they performed with such distinction behind Iraqi lines during the Gulf war when three squadrons were sent.

Zealous crusader flaunts passion for power

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

AS THE siege of Sarajevo began, Bosnian radio played repeatedly a tape the claimed was General Ratko Mladic shouting orders to subordinate. "Blast 'em," he barks, naming a suburb that he wants shelled. "Blast 'em don't let them sleep a wink — there aren't many Serbs over there." This is the man the Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose, the archetypal British officer is up against.

Ruddy, stockily built and exuding an image of power General Mladic is a believer. He is prosecuting the Serb cause with the zeal of a Crusader, utterly sure of his faith. He also enjoys his power, often literally of life and death. When a man was discovered covering among the women and children who were being evacuated from the eastern Muslim enclave of Srebrenica, he interrogated him in front of a United Nations official. Then he let him go, saying: "I have given this man back his life."

General Mladic comes from eastern Herzegovina, an area steeped in martial tradition and also steeped in hatred of Croats. During the war in Croatia, he was appointed to head the Yugoslav Army in Krtin, now the capital of the breakaway republic of Serbian Krajina.

Having caught the eye of President Milosevic of Serbia, he was given what was to become the most important task of his life. He was appointed the first commander of the Bosnian Serb Army. Within months he had fashioned an army and rapidly consolidated control over 70 per cent of the country.

Mladic is loved by his men and civilians alike. Wading the streets of Serb-held towns, he is mobbed by people who see him as their saviour on the Croat and Muslim threat. He revels in such attention.

His enemies condemn him as a evil figure and a war criminal who has seduced thanks to a policy of firmiton defenceless people. He shags off such accusations as es. For him this is a war likely other, or rather it would if the international community were not so deeply involved.

Recently conflict has abated beneath the surface as General Mladic is said to have run into open conflict with Radovan Karadzic, Bosnian Serb leader. I is reported to have accused Karadzic of enjoying the life in foreign hotels and bargaining away territories that his men have die to secure for "Serbdom".

Last month General Mladic's daughter died, allegedly by her own hand. For few days he disappeared from view only to reappear in the wake of the battle of Gorde.

Last night reports sp of a divided Serb leadership unsure of what to do, oers mentioned the possibility General Mladic was "of control" and could eve be sacked. These stories ve been officially denied. However they help to add the Mladic myth. Will he talon Nato? Or will he be fed into submission?



Zhirinovskiy: nationalist

Zhirinovskiy wants Nato bombed

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

VLADIMIR Zhirinovskiy, the maverick Russian nationalist leader, yesterday accused the West of initiating the conflict in Bosnia for its own ends, and said Russia should bomb Nato bases in Italy in retaliation for the air strikes on Serb forces (Michael Binyon writes).

Mr Zhirinovskiy, who arrived in Strasbourg as part of Russia's delegation of observers at the Council of Europe, said the West's involvement was "against the Orthodox, against the Slav people". The French authorities had warned him not to make any controversial statements.

Fabio Fabbrì, the Italian Defence Minister, said: "The absurd and delirious threats from Zhirinovskiy, whose presence in Strasbourg seems clumsy and out of place, don't scare us."

Tasmania's anti-gay laws 'violate human rights'

FROM REUTERS IN SYDNEY

THE United Nations Human Rights Committee has ruled that Tasmania's criminal laws on homosexuality violate international human rights agreements that Australia has signed, Michael Lavarch, Australia's Attorney-General, said yesterday after receiving a copy of the ruling.

But the Tasmanian government is adamant its anti-homosexual laws, which carry a maximum sentence of 21 years in prison for sexual intercourse "against the order of nature", will not be repealed. "We made a decision at a party meeting last week that we would leave the law as it is... we will not be repealing it," Ron Cornish, the Tasmanian Attorney-General, said yesterday. "I believe the decision of the Tasmanian government clearly reflects the opinion of the Tasmanian public," he said.

The UN committee, meeting in New York, ruled on March

31 that Tasmania's criminal laws on homosexuality breached the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights and upheld a complaint against the laws by Nicholas Toonen, a Tasmanian homosexual activist. It ruled that Mr Toonen's privacy, as enshrined in the covenant, was breached by the laws as they prevented him from engaging in sex in the privacy of his own home.

"No one shall be subject to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to unlawful attacks on his honour and reputation," the committee said.

Tasmania is the only Australian state to outlaw anal and oral sex between men. The committee called for the repeal of the offending laws and asked Australia to respond within 90 days. "The federal government now has the authority to enact a nation-

wide prohibition against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation," said Rodney Croome, spokesman for the Tasmanian Gay and Lesbian Rights Group.

But the Tasmanian government, which was not represented at the UN hearing, dismissed the ruling. "What we have is a group of faceless men in another part of the world, who have no accountability for Tasmanian criminal law, making a decision relating to Tasmanian criminal law," said Mr Cornish.

Mr Lavarch said the UN ruling had no legal force, but added that the federal government may overrule Tasmania's state laws and called for talks with the Tasmanian government.

"The finding is against Australia and not Tasmania. It is Australia's obligation to comply with the standards contained in the covenant," Mr Lavarch said.

Convict takes killer title in jail bout

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

BITTER rivalry between two of New York's most notorious prisoners, a man nicknamed known as the "Animal" and an accused serial killer nicknamed the "Ripper", has erupted into what might be described as the jailhouse equivalent of a world heavyweight title bout.

Colin Ferguson, a Jamaican who killed six passengers on a commuter train, recently indulged in verbal fighting in a Long Island jail with Joel Rifkin, a New Yorker who has been charged with strangling 18 women.

The hulking Ferguson, who is 36, easily scored a technical knock-out by punching the scrawny Mr Rifkin, 35, in the mouth after the accused sex killer refused his request to be quiet while he (Ferguson) was talking on the phone.

Prison sources say the two have been enemies since Ferguson arrived in the the Nassau County Correctional

Institute outside New York City in December, each aparently claiming the credentials of being the most fearsome criminal. "I wiped out six devils, and you only killed women," Ferguson is reported to have told his challenger.

"Yeah, but I had more victims," Mr Rifkin is reported to have countered.

The prison brawl has exacerbated racial tensions in the prison, with black prisoners supporting Ferguson and white inmates taking Rifkin's side. Only last week, a group of black prison guards complained that their white colleagues had encouraged white inmates to beat up Ferguson. The black guards said the problem of racial violence in the jail was "systemic".

Ferguson has now been moved to another section of the prison to keep him away from the hapless Mr Rifkin, and peace reigns for now.

Menem savours prospect of second term in office

FROM EDWARD EDWARDS IN BUENOS AIRES

PRESIDENT Menem, dismissing gains made by a ragtag left-wing coalition, yesterday savoured overwhelming backing for his plan to run for an unprecedented second term in office.

"I tell you now, we are going to continue what we have begun. The economic model has the backing of the political forces," the Argentinean leader said.

Countrywide, Señor Menem's Peronist Party took 38 per cent of the vote, followed by the Radical Party with 20 per cent. His mandate expires next year. He wants a second term to consolidate the free-market reforms that produced what he calls his "economic miracle" and turned Argentina into one of the world's leading emerging markets.

But Señor Menem received a slap in the face in the capital in the form of an upset victory for the Broad Front left-wing



Menem: wants to consolidate reform

coalition, thrown together just months ago protesting against the re-election bid and mounting charges of government corruption. With the exception of a socialist senator elected in 1961, no leftwingers had won

in Buenos Aires for 144 years. "This is a 7 to corruption, a 7 to Menem's re-election," Broad Front leader Carlos Alvarez, the old Front leader, said.

In recent weeks, the government has seen itself sized into one scandal after another and senior officials face charges — rarely upheld in court — of corruption and fraud in everything from the sale of state assets to the management of pensioners' health funds.

The main loser from Monday's vote appeared to be the opposition Radical Party of Senator Menem's predecessor, Raúl Alfonsín, who agreed in a sudden switch in November to back the President's 1 for constitutional reform.

Senator Alfonsín's partial support identified with mind-boggling four-digit hyperinflation in 1989, alienated many voters with this shift.

Westerners
see rebel
advance
in Kigali

Asia's Financ

of joy, gin
Mao 101



Wounded Tutsi soldiers bayoneted to death in hospital by government soldiers

Westerners flee rebel advance on Kigali

By CATHERINE BOND IN KIGALI
JAMES LANDALE IN BRUSSELS
AND LUCY BERRINGTON

RIBEL forces were last night closing in on Kigali, the Rwandan capital, as Belgium speeded the rescue of its 1,500 nationals from the anarchic central African republic amid continuing bloodshed.

The Rwandan Patriotic Front announced that its 20,000-strong army was approaching Kigali from all sides and that resistance from government forces was crumbling. A French military commander confirmed that the

wounded men, women and children. The compound outside was littered with bodies. Yesterday two European officers serving with the United Nations in Rwanda said 89 Tutsi who sought sanctuary in a church near the UN compound were killed on Thursday by Hutu civilians brought to the church by government soldiers. They died in the presence of the UN officers. The killings take place casually, under the noses of UN, French and Belgian troops, within the range of television cameras, and just yards from convoys of expatriates being evacuated and foreign journalists.

Although it is impossible for outsiders to identify who is killing who, most of the killing is probably not random but carried out along ethnic and political lines. The victims are likely to be members of Rwanda's ethnic minority, the Tutsi, as well as members of the majority Hutu tribe who made the now-fatal mistake of openly supporting opposition parties.

Foreigners married to Tutsi are not spared. Belgian troops serving with the 2,500-strong force in Rwanda say at least two mixed Belgian-Rwandan families have been slaughtered. The Canadian wife of a Tutsi opposition politician and their children were among the first people killed when the violence flared last Thursday. The Foreign Office in London



An American woman and child in Nairobi after being evacuated from the Rwandan capital in a US military transport aircraft

said that at least 47 Britons had fled the country but about 30 are thought to remain. France completed the evacuation of almost all its 620 nationals by last night but said about 30 more were stranded outside Kigali.

At least three C-130 military transport planes carrying 270 Belgians took off yesterday afternoon from Kigali for Nairobi, the Kenyan capital, and more were expected to follow. The refugees will then fly to Brussels on board a Boeing 747 and a DC10 provided by Sabena, the Belgian national airline. The Defence Ministry in Brussels confirmed that at

least six Belgian civilians have been killed in the fighting which has been raging in Rwanda since the deaths of President Ntaryamira of Burundi and President Habyarimana of Rwanda. Ten Belgian soldiers were killed last week while protecting Agathe Uwilingiyimana, the Rwandan Prime Minister.

Hundreds of Belgians who have been trapped in their homes since last Wednesday began to flood towards Kigali airport, and Belgian radio said the evacuation seemed to be going smoothly. Colonel Luc Marchal, head of the Belgian UN peacekeepers in

Rwanda, said that there was still shooting in the capital, but that it was less intense than in previous days. "Police are trying to get security under control and are rooting out looters," he told Belgian television.

Early yesterday morning, 89 Belgian and 26 Dutch nationals arrived in Brussels after flying from Bujumbura, the capital of Burundi. They said they had escaped from the southern Rwandan town of Butare by land after hearing the reports of violence in Kigali. Although they said they had been afraid, they added that Butare had been

quiet. Anti-Belgian feeling is strong in Kigali where government troops have accused Belgium of siding with the rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front. An Oxfam spokesman predicted huge population movements if the fighting continued and said there were already rumours of Burundian refugees in Rwanda fleeing home across the border.

Escaping Britons described the five days of slaughter. One elderly woman from Sussex, an Anglican lay worker who did not wish to be named, said: "Young men with knives are running around burning and killing. We felt we had to

go now or we would not be able to get out... we mourn the poor Rwandans. They are scared stiff."

Tony Wood, British honorary consul who has lived in Rwanda since 1968, believed rampaging gangs of youths were murdering and looting houses in the city. "If they don't get what they want from people, it's curtains. This country is being destroyed. While people may not have agreed with the late President, the infrastructure of the country was fantastic, roads, communications and so on. It is a tragedy to see what is happening here."

Week terror

up targets

k Royal

front's troops were just one and a half miles from the French School in central Kigali where trapped Westerners were assembling for evacuation and advised journalists to leave. "This place is going to get dangerous," he said.

Reports of brutality continued to come in. Three government soldiers bayoneted to death in Kigali's central hospital two wounded soldiers belonging to the minority Tutsi tribe. The hospital was said to be overflowing with 700

Pretoria's finance chief puts faith in ANC partnership

FROM MICHAEL HAMELIN
IN JOHANNESBURG

Derek Keys ran a mining conglomerate before joining the government. His experience of working with the ANC has convinced him that South Africa has bright economic prospects

through which VAT was increased from 10 to 14 per cent. "We did that without a single protest from labour," he said. An informal group was set up to negotiate with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, which included all parliamentary parties and the African National Congress.

The same group put together South Africa's offer to Gatt. "The deal we have done through Gatt

involves the industrial and trade policy of this country for the next decade at least, and probably longer," Mr Keys said. "We've brought inflation down; we've resumed growth; we've got things going again. In all that time we have not had an ideological discussion."

Mr Keys was also confident of the resilience of the South African economy. "It's a super economy," he said, pointing out that it has

survived falling commodity prices, lower precious metal prices, loss of capital, and the worst drought the country has known. "You have to have respect for an economy which can take all that — and I haven't even mentioned sanctions — on the chin and emerge this quarter at a higher level of economic activity than five years ago."

Mr Keys said that all parties now agreed that the main objective was job creation. There were, he thought, two possible threats to the future. Firstly, his hopes rest on a consensus that high economic growth is important enough to make sacrifices for. "If we have a serious carbuncle of political unrest, it makes the achievement of that consensus well-nigh impossible," he

said. Secondly, he feared that if the ANC became too powerful some of its radical views might prevail.

The focus returns to constitutional differences between the ANC and the Inkatha Freedom Party today, when a team of mediators headed by Lord Carrington, the former Foreign Secretary, and Henry Kissinger, the former US Secretary of State, arrives here to try to resolve the impasse. The terms of reference for the mediators were agreed between a joint ANC/Inkatha committee on Sunday.

□ Pretoria: South Africa's National Assembly will elect a new President on May 6, eight days after the first all-race elections. Judge Michael Corbett, head of the inaugural committee, said. (AFP)



Keys confident in resilience of South African economy

City of joy, gin and jazz leaps from Mao to land of Trump

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN SHANGHAI

AS RAINS from the hinterland disgorge their passengers on to the packed platforms of the Shanghai railway station, loudspeakers boom out a strange command: "Please get back on the trains and go home."

The great port opened by British arms for the opium trade in the 1840s is enjoying a bonanza of historic dimensions, but this city of 13 million cannot house the thousands pouring in from the countryside every week. For, however, heed the warning. The foreign firms rushing to Shanghai may consider their payroll a negligible cost, but for the peasant hordes a local sweatshop means prosperity.

With its gold-rush atmosphere, the impact on the peasant, with his belongings in a bundle on a stick, is beyond imagination. What, on wonders, must be the fate of the hordes of European settlers? The old haunts of the European settlement seem to have leapt straight over Mao's Tiananmen to the land of Donald Trump. This yuppie heaven of young business types — more Hong Kong than Red China — are busy doing their bit for Deng Xiaoping's dictum "rich is glorious", the rationale of "market socialism" which has unleashed the merchant energy of the Chinese.

Modern traffic now jams all lanes of the Bund, the elegant avenue by the Hangpu river which boasts the great 1920s facades of the European era. The new master of the "city of joy, gin and jazz" are leasing back the old

buildings — sometimes to their former owners — at higher costs than Manhattan or London. The skyline is thick with glitzy modern towers thrown up by teams, which swarm on bamboo scaffolding.

The rule may still be Communist, but you sense a touch of the heyday when Shanghai was home to the wickedly rich and desperately poor. While the poor are being shoved out to the outskirts, everyone else appears to be pouring their yuan

into the speculative gold mines of the stock exchange and property market.

The nightlife is back with official encouragement, this time in the form of gaudy cabarets and karaoke bars. Residents tell of rampant corruption, gangsters and crooked cops, clip-joints and bawdy houses worthy of 1920s Chicago.

The sleazy side is a symptom of the vasty ambitious plan to turn Shanghai into the commercial dragon of the world. Mr Deng, China's

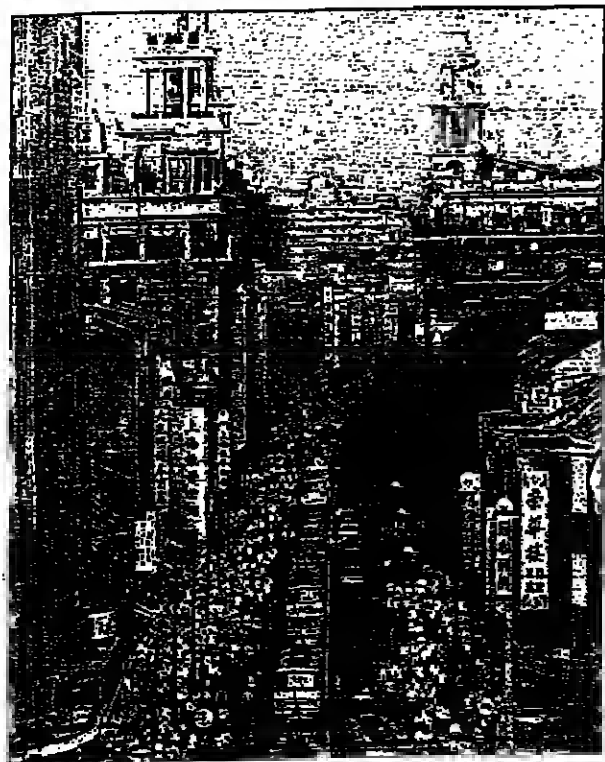
senior leader, launched the Shanghai explosion in 1992 after concluding that he had made an error in excluding it from the "special economic zones" created 15 years ago.

Shanghai is aiming to replace Hong Kong as the economic centre after 1997. In 1992 \$2.4 billion flowed in, followed by \$6 billion last year. About 130 multinational companies set up operations in 1993. The Pharaonic projects now under way include a German-built underground rail system, motorways, a second international airport and the foundations of a huge new economic zone in Pudong, across the river. It is conceivable that this site could turn into the trade centre of the Pacific region.

But warning signs have been flashing and the speculative bubble in Shanghai has begun to look just that. Corruption and greed is causing some foreign companies to look elsewhere.

The big unknown is the conviction expected to follow the death of the ailing Mr Deng. A senior Shanghai-based diplomat outlined his bleak theory that with unrest simmering again, Li Peng and the other Peking leaders have decided to put internal order above growth and are preparing one of China's big reversals.

China would weather the heavy short-term damage to its economy and emerge ready for the 21st century with discipline re-imposed. Such a scenario would guarantee a very cold shower for the new merchants of Shanghai.



Nanjing Lu, Shanghai's main shopping street, where the dictum "rich is glorious" prevails once more

Boycott splits Japan's coalition

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS
IN TOKYO

THE possibility of a stalemate in Japan's government arose yesterday when leaders of the ruling coalition's conservative faction boycotted a meeting called by their liberal partners. It was the clearest illustration yet of a split in the coalition that has widened since the resignation of Morihiro Hosokawa, the Prime Minister. Mr Hosokawa's decision brought to the surface a long-standing feud between a moderate-to-left faction in the eight-coalition and a more conservative group led by Ichiro Ozawa.

The argument was over procedure, but the real dispute is over the ideas and personality of Mr Ozawa, who wants Japan to take on the military burdens of a "normal country". Japan's constitution forbids the use of force in international disputes. The differences have kept the coalition from deciding who should succeed Mr Hosokawa.

A split in the coalition would leave Japan with several large minority blocs in parliament, each opposed to the other and none with good prospects of forming a stable government. That in turn could mean political paralysis as the Clinton Administration puts pressure on Japan to reduce its trade surplus with Washington.

Analysts also have expressed fears that a political vacuum could make it difficult for the West to form a bulwark against North Korea, which is suspected of trying to build a nuclear bomb.

THE TIMES INVITES READERS TO A PRIVATE VIEW AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY

TRUTH AND FANTASY Goya

THE SMALL PAINTINGS

The first major exhibition to be held in London for nearly 30 years of the work of Francisco Goya (1746-1828) opened on March 17 at the Royal Academy of Arts in London's Piccadilly. "Goya: Truth and Fantasy" consists of about 100 small-scale paintings, drawn from private collections, museums and galleries.

The exhibition includes sketches for Goya's major altarpieces, dating from the 1770s to 1820, and many of Goya's portraits, including the celebrated self-portrait of the artist working in the studio.

The exhibition, which runs until June 12 is mounted in association with *The Times* and Classic FM with support from Iberia Airlines.

To enable readers of *The Times* to enjoy the exhibition at leisure, we have arranged

two private view evenings, on Tuesday, April 19, and Thursday, April 28, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm, during which wines and canapés will be served. On arrival each guest will be directed to the Sackler Galleries and given a free gallery guide, worth £1.60. During the evening Mouton Cadez wines, red and white, by Baron Philippe de Rothschild, will be served with canapés in the Private Rooms.

At 7pm a short introductory talk will be given by a guest lecturer and the Royal Academy shop will be open to readers who will be entitled to a 10 per cent discount on Goya merchandise (excluding books).

On leaving the exhibition, each guest will receive a copy of the poster for the exhibition, worth £4.95, and the gift of four exhibition postcards.

THE TIMES

GOYA TRUTH & FANTASY PRIVATE VIEWING AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Algerian minister quits over economy

Tunis: President Zeroual of Algeria accepted the resignation of Redha Malek, the Prime Minister, yesterday and appointed Mokdad Sifi, the Equipment Minister in the outgoing government, to succeed him.

The change was announced a day after Algeria's army-backed rulers devalued their dinar by 25.6 per cent as part of a debt relief deal with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Diplomats and analysts had expected Mr Malek's resignation at the end of the long negotiations with the IMF, in which Algeria accepted painful price rises and a big devaluation in exchange for a rescheduling of its \$26 billion (£17.7 billion) debt. (Reuters)

Pope's visit off

Rome: The Pope's planned visit to Lebanon in May, his first trip to the Middle East, which was to have been one of spiritual encouragement, has been postponed indefinitely because of a surge of violence. (Reuters)

Alliance pact

Bonn: Germany's liberal Free Democrats, slumping in popularity before the October national elections, voted to continue their coalition with the Christian Democrats, led by Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor. (Reuters)

Bomb kills 16

Kabul: At least 16 civilians died and 144 were wounded in an air strike and artillery bombardment by rival factions. The deaths resulted from a bomb dropped by a jet of General Abdul Dostam, the Uzbek warlord. (AFP)

Iraqi pardon

Bucharest: President Saddam Hussein pardoned four Romanians jailed for "illegal entry" into Iraq after a Romanian government appeal, the Foreign Ministry here said. They had entered Iraq from Turkey. (AFP)

Seoul offers aid

Seoul: President Kim Young Sam of South Korea said Seoul is ready to provide economic aid to North Korea if Pyongyang engages in serious dialogue with the South over its suspected nuclear programme. (Reuters)

Lady vampire

Moscow: According to witnesses, an unnamed "highly excited" woman party-goer in Vladivostok stabbed a policeman to death, then began greedily sucking the blood from his wounds, the RIA news agency said. (Reuters)

Russia's good-time girls who just want to have fun

Glaning into the mirror in the 'ladies' lavatory at a Moscow night club, four faces appear alongside my own. They are framed by glossy blonde hair, set in intricate curls and waves. Frowns of concentration furrow their young brows as they paint their lips a ferocious red. The girls turn on their high heels and clatter back to rejoin their hosts. Their harsh beauty and brazen venality conjure up an image of another era and another country. They seem like creatures from a George Grosz canvas, ghosts of Weimar Germany moved East. Whether or not the prophecies of an imminent social chaos and descent into dictatorship are fulfilled, the heady cocktail of decadence, squalor and resentment is one that produced national intoxication in inter-war Berlin.

"This is respectable place," announces one of the doormen. "No Caucasians, no shooting." Back at their table, the boyfriends have got through two bottles of vodka and two French table wines, and are moving on to Bloody Marys with shots of cognac, as if they could not get enough variety on their blurred palates. They have ordered lobster, but are bored of eating it. Drinking is more fun, anyway. In Soviet days, you could have been sure that the women were prostitutes and the men foreigners. In the half-light of contemporary Moscow mores, however, it is more difficult to tell, as hard as it is to be sure whether a rich man is an entrepreneur or a criminal.

Bored with reforms, Muscovites pursue the pleasure principle

The primacy of business and the pursuit of money have spawned a generation of good-time girls: not professional whores, just women willing to be on hand for a night out. "We do not have prostitutes in here," says one waiter, "just a lot of very pretty girls."



ANNE McELVOY

from to death during a single winter night. When the DJ turns down the sound after the words "I know what I want," the crowd chants back "And I want it now". It could be the anthem of Weimar Russia. Another popular rap song urges, "Tomorrow there might be peace."

there might be war, there might be a dictator, a war or a democrat. Tonight there is only music."

The currently favoured night club is the Palace of Culture, a former lightbulb factory near the run-down Kursk station. The "employee of the month" and legends of production quotas for 40-watt bulbs dating back 20 years are still visible on the walls.

A one-armed veteran, still wearing his Lenin badge, marks the cloakroom. He hardly notices the garish array of painted creatures who pass before him. "I'm not interested in what goes on here."

Only rarely does politics intervene in Moscow's nocturnal world. In the aftermath of the October rebellion, Boris Yeltsin ordered a curfew which closed all

clubs and restaurants. It was a hugely popular move with ordinary Muscovites, who deeply resented the existence on their doorstep of pleasure domes they cannot afford to enter.

Of the pretenders to Mr Yeltsin's throne, only the extremist candidate Vladimir Zhirinovskiy exerts sub-cultural appeal. He has honed in on heavy-metal fans, and even appears on occasions in his black leather jacket at the sweaty and unimpressive Sestroretskaya night club.

He allows a bikers' shop to operate from the stairway of his headquarters, and says that he likes "good loud rock music sung in Russian". This is no mere eccentricity. Mr Zhirinovskiy is well aware that the secret of electoral success lies in selling his

twisted patriotism to old and young disaffected alike.

His name evokes no sign of concern among the revellers. In the swish nightclubs with their surfeit of food, drink and blonde, everything goes, it seems, except talk about politics.

The *avtoritski* express contempt for their tired, old country by not taking any interest in what runs it. In this they are joined by intellectuals, who sneer at the disorganisation of the Democrat and by disillusioned voters such as those of St Petersburg, too few of whom turned out last month even to validate the local elections.

In the present doldrums of reform, it seems that few Russians have the strength to consider the future, let alone take part in shaping it. But some are having a better time than others, living in the giddy present.

Why the lady is an old bag

The years since Sally Moon, self-styled Chief Old Bag, took revenge on her baronet husband have been good for her and bad for him, she tells Julia Llewellyn Smith

Two years ago Sally Moon was a woman scorned. Her husband, a car-dealing baronet, had left her for a younger woman and was living in a love nest down the road. He was cruising in the fast lane, having the time of his life; she was marooned on the hard shoulder, lonely and menapausal, unqualified and blackballed from the dinner party circuit.

It was an all-too-familiar story, but with one crucial difference. Lady Moon decided to rewrite the ending. Not for her an embittered old age of widow's cruises and angry outbursts at the dogs. Or not without a fight, at least. At three o'clock one bleak May morning she went to her husband's new house and poured white gloss paint over his BMW. She then cut his sleeves off 32 of his £1,000 suits. Finally, she distributed 70 of the best bottles from his wine cellar on the doorsteps of her rival's village.

Her actions made all the newspapers, made her husband, Sir Peter, a laughing stock and, after the paint had been scraped off and the wine recovered, transformed Lady Moon, 55, into a sort of feminist guru, a Germaine Greer in a Barbour, a Camille Paglia for the home counties.

"People say to me you have struck a blow for womankind and all that sort of crap," she says. "But at the time there wasn't anyone in my world, except me and Peter. I don't mind admitting that for a while I was batty."

She is not exactly batty now, but she is definitely eccentric in the most English of ways. Her upbringing was a template of upper-class girlhood: born in India, bred in Egypt, Benenden and the Season. It was a life with no purpose except marriage. An early, disastrous one produced three sons; the second, to Sir Peter, spawned two.

It is lunchtime when I arrive at her sprawling farmhouse in

Lambourn Woodlands, Berkshire. Lady Moon is curled up in an armchair, knocking back the red wine, the photographer is giggling hysterically. Her pug is scratching at the door. I have just missed a big family row, over what her visiting grandchildren will be fed for lunch. Clearly, the Moon temperament is unabated, the worm is still turning. "Even on matters like this, I will speak my mind. I'm not going to be pushed into neutral beige and brown, to become the mat everyone wipes their feet on."

It is this frankness that has made Lady Moon more than a one-gesture wonder. She is pretty, witty and — if a bit rambling — articulate, perfect fodder for the chat-show circuit. She has lost count of the number of times she has appeared with Richard and Judy or Anne and Nick. The other week she was on *Newsnight* talking about "poor Lady Catherine". She is editing a book of tales of

revenge and for a few months last year had a column in *The Sun*. All this is a handy money-spinner and two fingers up to Sir Peter, who fled to South Africa, paying not a penny of maintenance. Yet Lady Moon is not the only one to benefit from her deeds. A chance

remark to a newspaper about forming a club for "Old Bags" in her position led to an avalanche of enquiries. "We realised there was a tremendous demand there for a club for women who find themselves — whether they like it or not — abandoned in middle age and trying to start again."

Within a year, the Old Bags Club, or OBC, had 500 members, aged between 43 and 65, from all over the country and all classes. Lists of names are compiled by region and the Bags are encouraged to get together. Canada is interested and so are Australia, Holland, Japan, Ireland, South Africa and New Zealand. Lady Moon, as Chief Old Bag, has just been in America to launch the club there. A logo is currently being printed of an open bag ("Crumpled, but very good quality") with stars, bottles of champagne and pound signs bursting out of it. When Old Bags meet, they

do not discuss the politics of eating disorders or the rots for the next bring-and-buy sale. "We have fun," says Lady Moon, leaning back against the Aga. "Last week a girlfriend and I had lunch at Langan's. It was great! We didn't see anyone famous and it cost about £33, but it's absolutely lovely now and again for a treat."

But this is advanced Old Bagdom. In the early stages the club exists for ear-chewing, for moaning, for grooming to others who will understand. "You know you can be exceedingly boring and repetitive but if you give that leeway to someone else you can think: 'It's time for me now. It's like therapy but cheaper, and I think it works better.'"

A bit of talk and a bit of laughter and most women are, if not exactly healed, patched up. "In the end a lot of them

are quite relieved to see the back of him." Some cases, however, are more serious. "You get women who are really on the floor. Society has said you are not one of a couple any more, therefore there is this gentle dropping and rejection. That hole in your life has got to be filled, and you have to accept that there just aren't enough guys to go round. You have got to come to terms with the fact you may never marry again, that you may never sleep with another man."

Even if you do sleep with another, little will be solved. "These women have got to learn to live on their own. Then when they meet another man you think: 'Humm, you just might add to the quality of my life.' But it's just when you have done a lot of hard work that you can do that."

Lady Moon has done that hard work. "It's got to be one hell of a special guy that would

make me feel I could marry him, or even live with him."

Sir Peter, meanwhile, has fared less happily. He split up with the Berkshire girlfriend, and last October remarried in South Africa. Last week, however, it was reported that the marriage was over. "I can't say I'm surprised," says the first Lady Moon, before making a few unprintable comments about the sound. "I feel sorry for Peter now."

Listening to his powerhouse, it is hard to believe she suffered 27 years of philandering and second-classdom. But the insecurities of a woman who believed she was nothing except in the eyes of a man still peak through. "One or twice I have been at a dinner party and sat next to a single man who didn't appear to be queer or transvestite. I was deeply, deeply panicky. I thought: 'Oh my God, I have to do something about this, an suppose I was rejected?'"

Americans are frequenting giant bookstores to shop for the perfect nate

WHO WOULD have expected a literary renaissance when books are being scorned into oblivion by the lovers of CD-ROMs and other unpleasant technologies? Yet mushrooming across America, and soon Europe, are book superstores which could shelve all of Charing Cross Road.

Late in the evening, the Barnes & Noble megastore on Broadway in Manhattan glows alive against the dark shops all around. Couples fall out of the cinema or restaurants for a "lit hit" before going home. Two hundred or so people are mooching along the mahogany shelves among nearly a quarter of a million books — not all are buying, but plenty are

thumbing, and others are sitting reading at tables or cross-legged on the carpet. Down at the other block-long superstore in Chelsea at ten at night or later, fat armchairs and sofas are provided for the weary, with Virgil and Flauto in pocket-sized editions on a side table.

Readers stop for pecan pie and coffee latte in the gallery café, each supposedly engrossed in a masterpiece, while in fact keeping an eye on the scene.

For it is a scene, just as health clubs and gyms were in the 1980s. This is a meeting of minds rather than bodies, but the tension is palpable. Bookworms are cruising each other in classics, in poetry, in cooking, in new fiction. Others are just making comfortable conversation with those who haunt the same subsections. Sharon Stein, 32, a scriptwriter, comes to the Broadway

Passion goes under cover

superstore about once a week and notes that she has had two offers of a cup of coffee from browsers in the drama section, "and a number of significant glances". For a single woman in New York — and the latest estimates show two single women to every man — it is not easy out there, and making friends in a bookshop conveniently narrows the field.

The shop also feels much safer than clubs or blind dates, she says. "In singles' bars there's too much pressure. It's a meet market and you have to dress up, but with a bookshop you know he can read, which is always useful in a guy; you know he likes books; and, if you meet him in a specific section, you know you've got something in common," says Ms Stein. "I look at it like this: if you want a man who drinks, go to a bar. If you want a man who reads go to a bookstore."

In the Chelsea shop, Joanne McQuillan, 29, a medical researcher, favours the poetry section in her search for a sensitive man. "Anyone reading Walt Whitman is always a good bet," she says.

"We provide a social service as well as a literary one," says a Barnes & Noble spokesman, by which he means reading and lectures rather than dat-

clients to invest in the book explosion.

Words like "generate high traffic with heavy impulse buying" pepper their reports, along with "aggressive advertising..." and other community events. According to Morgan Stanley, the term for such megastores, which may put a few specialty shops out of business, is "category killers with style."

This matters little to the patrons who cannot resist the human and literary immopia of the superstore which perfectly combines the feeling of a long warm afternoon in the university library with that panacea for all ills, retail therapy.



KATE MUIR

know you've got something in common," says Ms Stein. "I look at it like this: if you want a man who drinks, go to a bar. If you want a man who reads go to a bookstore."

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Let your heart rule your head

More benefits of red wine



DR THOMAS STUTTFORD

In 1992 *The Lancet* suggested that having two to three alcoholic drinks a day could reduce the risk of heart disease by 40 per cent. Not only do moderate drinkers experience fewer heart attacks, but if they have one it is less likely to be fatal.

The scientific evidence of the cardio protective effect of alcohol is now accepted — but the reason why alcohol cuts the incidents of coronary atherosclerosis (the furring up of the heart's arteries) is still being investigated as is the varying ability of the different types of drink to achieve this.

More than 20 years ago French scientists claimed that all drinks red wine was the most effective in preventing cardiovascular disease. Contrary to expectations, research work in Cardiff showed that the French were not merely supporting their export trade but had hit on a scientific truth, the evidence for which continues to grow.

Pulse magazine reports that at the recent meeting of the American College of Cardiology in Wisconsin it was demonstrated that two glasses of red wine taken by a 94 stone person, or three for somebody over 13 stone, had, within half-an-hour, a marked effect on blood clotting times. It took 8 per cent longer for blood to clot, and platelet aggregation (the sticking together of clotting particles) was decreased by 11 per cent.

Red wine appears to work more efficiently than white wine or other alcoholic drinks. After drinking red wine changes in the clotting mechanism occurred at about a third of the blood alcohol concentration needed to achieve the same effect if white wine, or other drinks had been taken instead.

The French have isolated an antioxidant, quercetin, found in red wine which acts independently from other substances in the wine, and even from the effect of the alcohol itself. Research is looking at other constituents as well as quercetin, which might inhibit the formation of clots.

Neck injuries are commonplace in car crashes, but their treatment is disputed. Aileen Ballantyne reports

Scourge of the whiplash

When we get into a car, most of us are extremely careful to fasten our seatbelts. We then completely fail to give even a second thought to the position of the headrest — yet that headrest is our protection against one of the most common consequences of all road accidents: whiplash, which affects tens of thousands of people in Britain every year.

An injury to the neck can cause a wide range of problems — some of which may only emerge months or years after the original accident. These include restricted mobility and flexibility, facial pain, ringing in the ears, and numbness in arms and hands.

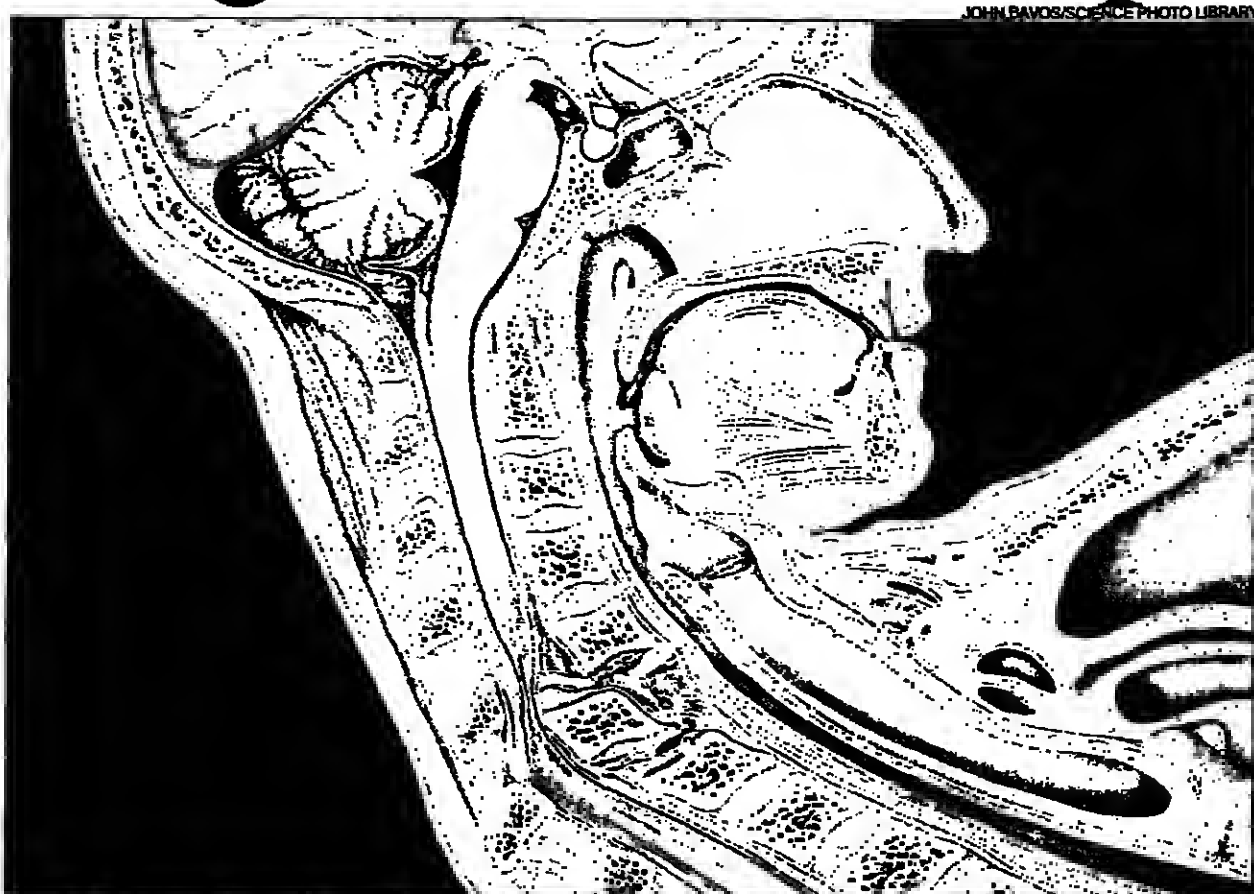
For more than two years, the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy has been campaigning for more awareness of the correct position of headrests. If properly positioned, physiotherapists argue, headrests can be extremely effective in preventing whiplash injury. Mrs Jane Langley, a spokeswoman for the society, points out that physiotherapists are constantly frustrated when, as they sit in traffic, they see dozens of cars around them with poorly adjusted headrests.

"If you have your headrest adjusted too low you will still get damage to your spine, just as you would if you did not have a headrest at all — all that will happen is that you will get the damage higher up than you would have done without a headrest," she says.

To prevent whiplash injuries, the society recommends that motorists and passengers carefully check their headrest to see that the bottom of it is level with the top of their ears. This may be a nuisance if you are accepting a lift in someone else's car, but you should remember that whiplash injuries are more common in passengers than in drivers because they are not braced for the bump, as the driver often is.

Mrs Heather McKibbin is a physiotherapist practising in Bath who has just completed an MSc research project, funded by the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, on whiplash injuries. She says that about 90 per cent of whiplash injuries in cars are caused when the vehicle is hit from behind. One of the most common collisions is to be "rear-ended" while waiting to go on to a roundabout, she says. "In a whiplash injury the trunk and the shoulders get thrown forwards and the head is relatively left behind, then it 'whips' forward. The purpose of the headrest is to ensure that, in a collision, the head and the trunk move as one."

Whiplash injuries — which describe any injury in which the neck is hyper-extended when it is jerked backwards, then forwards — can also occur in other circumstances, such as when a parent shakes a child too vigorously in temper, in



If the small neck bones are jammed, manipulation may help, but experts disagree over how soon it should be given

a rugby scrum or falling off a horse. According to a recently published research study at the Boston University School of Medicine involving 37 schoolchildren, whiplash can even be caused, to a mild degree, by a particularly arduous "head banging" session to heavy metal music in which the head is banged on to the neck violently, with a significant "snap" at the end of each motion.

But by far the most common cause of whiplash is the minor car accident. The injuries are rarely severe enough to cause loss of consciousness, although the victim may feel dazed. Over the next few hours, the typical symptoms of whiplash develop, including pain, stiffness and reduced ability to move the neck. These symptoms tend to increase in severity in the next few days.

But while there is widespread agreement on prevention and causes of this common injury, there is disagreement among doctors and other specialists on the best methods of treating such injuries. Such disagreements have recently been highlighted by correspondence in the doctor's weekly magazine, *General Practitioner*. Following a training article on

the injury in the magazine, Dr John Stenning, from Peterborough, questions the advice given on the need for physiotherapy for a whiplash injury if symptoms last more than a week. He particularly questions such advice if it is a more severe "rotational" injury, which occurs when a driver whose car is hit from behind is looking to the left or right at the time of the crash.

"As the pathology is damage to the ligament, I am not sure physiotherapy is the right answer, especially in the early stages," he says in a letter. "It takes three months for soft tissues to heal... rest in a collar until the pain has gone or for a minimum of three months is preferable."

But Dr Allan Harris, a GP from Wigginton Health Centre, York, takes an entirely different view. Prolonged immobilisation, he argues, is not good management. "At our practice we have a fairly aggressive approach to these inju-

ries," he says. In a letter to the journal, countering many of Dr Stenning's arguments, he says he has found that patients who have not had early treatment are "disabled with pain and loss of function". "Three months in a cervical collar is far too long... Similarly, to wear the collar until the pain eases can be far too long. Soft collars promote bad posture and encourage dependence."

Dr Harris says there is growing evidence that early treatment, including ultrasound and physiotherapy exercises to re-educate the neck muscles, gives the sufferer a better chance of a good recovery. He recommends a period of only three to four days in a cervical collar and pain relief in the form of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

Wearing a collar too long is a huge temptation for many sufferers, he says, because they find they get relief from them and nobody tells them to take them off.

The problem with this is that the collar can cause the wearer to adopt an "ape-like" posture because the neck muscles become weak and the head drops forward.

His views are supported by Dr Peter Newman, consultant neurologist at Middlesbrough General Hospital, who says it is necessary to strike a fine balance between immobilising the neck for the first day or two when the soft tissues are bruised, and then, after that, introducing gentle exercise to prevent long-term stiffness.

"In an ideal world everyone who has a significant whiplash injury should be seen by a physiotherapist, but physiotherapy is a resource which is in very short supply," he says.

If, for example, the facet joints (the small bones at the back of the neck) have become jammed as a result of the impact, gentle manipulation by a registered chiropractor, chartered physiotherapist or doctor trained in manipulation may make all the difference. Mr Matthew Bennett, of the British Chiropractic Association, says that very gentle manipulation of the spine in the early stages of a whiplash injury after a short period of rest in a collar for the first few days, is a good way to ensure early mobility.

But physiotherapists, such as Mrs McKibbin, would prefer no manipulation, however gentle, to take place until a later stage, arguing that because large numbers of joints have been displaced by a whiplash injury, further movement of joints by manipulation, too early, is unlikely to be helpful.

Dr Newman pointed out, in an article published in the *British Medical Journal* more than three years ago, that there was "no clear consensus on the treatment of acute neck sprain, which ranges from prescribing a rolled-up newspaper for neck support to a carefully supervised programme of intensive treatment".

Since then, it seems, little has changed — but in the absence of a consensus it is always well worth making sure you see someone with as much experience as possible of your particular problem — in other words someone with a special interest in musculo-skeletal problems.

No matter what their speciality, if practitioners see only a small number of whiplash injuries every year, they are unlikely to have the expertise to ensure that a minor injury does not leave you with unnecessary long-term complications.

Must we always try to keep very premature infants alive?

Babies on a borderline

Martin is blind, epileptic, immobile, speechless and scarcely aware of what is going on around him. His parents have accepted £1.2 million in settlement of their claim against the obstetricians and midwives at their local hospital, whom they hold responsible for his disabilities.

Not surprisingly, they have harsh words for the doctors and nurses who delivered him. They have nothing but praise for the paediatric team who breathed life into their apparently stillborn son and then performed daily technical miracles to keep him alive during his first fragile weeks.

I do not share their admiration for my fellow doctors. Experience has taught paediatricians that if a baby shows no sign of responding to artificial ventilation and heart massage for 30 minutes, the chance of survival with an

intact brain is negligible. Such was the case with Martin. But what are doctors in this situation to do? In Scotland, in 1987, one was accused of failing to resuscitate a newborn baby that he considered incapable of living because of extreme prematurity. He was acquitted, although criticised for his lack of communication skills.

The law is vague on the subject. It can hardly be anything else now that there is no formal limit on the number of weeks at which a legal abortion can be carried out. So most of us have adopted the time-honoured practice of fly-

ing by the seat of our pants. This seems no longer acceptable to those who look over our shoulders: politicians, media commentators and pressure groups demand defined standards of care. The royal colleges responsible for doctors' education, the British Medical Association as protectors of their interests and the defence organisations who may foot the bill for errors, are all getting in on the act. NHS hospital trusts have appointed directors of quality control who have a duty to demonstrate to those who place contracts for health care that agreed standards of practice are in place. It can only be a matter of time before the NHS management executive pronounces on this issue.

Twenty years ago it was easy. If a baby was born at 28 weeks — 12 weeks early — he or she was regarded as so unlikely to survive that there was no obligation to intervene. This was underpinned by the law, which regarded such babies — if they did not breathe — not as stillborn but as having miscarried. Now, with increasing technical abilities of neonatal specialists, intensive care can be reasonably offered down to 24 weeks or even less.

There is, as always, a price to pay. The likelihood of survival at 24 weeks if cared for in a top-class neonatal intensive care unit is about 40 per cent. But one in two of the survivors has a moderate or severe handicap. In response to all these pressures, colleagues at my hospital (paediatricians, obstetricians, midwives and neonatal nurses) got together to produce guidelines. We quickly faced both ethical and practical difficulties. The starting point was clear enough: any baby of 24 weeks gestation or more would be resuscitated if there was made-

quate circulation or breathing at delivery. But how could we be sure of their dates? Many women are uncertain when they had their last period and even if they had been examined by ultrasound scan, there might be a week or two leeway. So, perhaps it would be best if our limit were 22 weeks? However, many women arriving in labour so early in their pregnancy would be regarded as miscarriage and so go to a gynaecology ward not a maternity unit. Neither resuscitators nor equipment would be available. In any case, if a baby is born so prematurely it would be better for it to come into the world at a major regional centre with a neonatal intensive care unit, than at a district maternity hospital. Women in labour at 24 weeks should be redirected, we said, but following the logic of our approach, so would women apparently miscarrying at 22 weeks. An obstetrician commented that he would be criticised for sending such patients to suffer the loneliness and bereavement of miscarriage far from home, just because of a remote possibility of a viable baby.

What if the woman arrived, on the verge of delivery, at an unknown number of weeks' gestation but likely to be on the borderline for survival? One approach, which we have written into our guidelines, is to resuscitate if the baby weighs more than 500 grams (approximately 22 weeks). But would we be able to stick to our guns if the baby turned out to weigh 490 grams?

It was a lot easier when one relied on common sense tempered by experience. Protocols and policies may satisfy planners, purchasers, commentators and lawyers (nobody yet seems to have asked mothers). But if fewer children are to suffer as Martin has, then it is time to have the debate on where to draw the line.

DR HARVEY MARCOVITCH

The author is a consultant paediatrician at Horton General Hospital, Banbury.

Health Tips

A new book reveals vital health tips based on the latest nutritional and scientific findings and time-proven remedies. This book is of vital importance to everyone interested in their health. Here are a few tips covered in this *Complete Handbook Of Health Tips*:

- How to get more energy and combat fatigue (3 nutrients may help).
- How to flatten your tummy with a 20 second, daily exercise.
- A nutrient that may help improve memory.
- A nutrient that may increase resistance to disease.
- 4 simple ways to take off weight.
- The only effective way to get rid of cellulite.
- A cheese that

- can help prevent tooth decay.
- A herbal remedy to prevent migraine headaches.
- One doctor's way to prevent grey hair.
- How to get rid of face hair.
- How to shorten miseries of a cold.
- 3 tips for relieving sinus congestion.
- 5 ways to stop foot odour.
- 3 nutrients to minimise harmful effects of alcohol.
- 2 vitamins that may help avoid bruises.
- 5 ways to relieve haemorrhoids.
- Prostate trouble: A simple tactic to alleviate getting up at night.
- A nutrient that may help lower blood pressure.
- 4 tips to fall asleep faster.
- How to detect and relieve food allergies.
- A tip for preventing car sickness.
- How to prevent bladder infections.

- A vitamin that may repel insects when taken orally.
- A simple technique to relieve tension.
- How to relieve dry skin.
- How to stop snoring.
- 3 ways to avoid stomach irritation when taking aspirin.
- 4 vitamins that may be harmful if taken to excess.
- 6 aids to eliminate constipation.
- 7 suggestions to relieve heartburn.
- A safe, simple home treatment for sore and tired feet.
- How to relieve bloating and puffiness.
- A common food to reduce cholesterol.
- 10 tips to ease back pain.

Irritable Bowel Syndrome

If you suffer bowel problems such as constipation, irregular diarrhoea, stomach cramps, excessive wind and symptoms aggravated by food, you should know about a new book *The Irritable Bowel Syndrome Self Help Guide*. The book contains comprehensive information on the bowel... how it functions, what can go wrong, how the author feels it can best be treated and

how to protect yourself from Irritable Bowel Syndrome. The book covers actual case histories of men and women who suffered Irritable Bowel Syndrome problems and how they were able to overcome them. Many people are putting up with troublesome bowel symptoms because they are unaware of all the treatments on offer and the welcome relief that is now available. *Get all the facts - order your copy today.* *The Irritable Bowel Syndrome Self Help Guide - £9.95 post paid (coupon below)*

Arthritis Relief

If you suffer from arthritis, you should know about a new book *The Complete Arthritis Handbook*. This book contains the latest up-to-date information on arthritis, including the newest natural and medical treatments, what really works. Here are a few facts covered in the book:

- Who gets arthritis - how, where and why.
- Relief from pain, what works.
- A country doctor's tip - what to sip with meals.
- 5 operations to consider.
- How a short fast can help.
- 5 vitamins that work.
- 17 foods to eat - and 18 foods to avoid.
- 7 drugs that really will help.
- 12 alternative treatments for fast relief.
- Devices to help about the house, in the garden and whilst driving.
- 9 organisations you can turn to, with addresses and telephone numbers.
- 17 contacts that can help, and where to find them.

Get all the facts - order your copy today. *The Complete Arthritis Handbook - £9.95 post paid (coupon below)*

Prostate Relief

If you suffer prostate problems such as getting up nights to urinate, urgency and frequency, delay and dribbling, pain and discomfort - you should know about a new book, *Your Prostate: What Every Man Over 40 Needs To Know Now*. The book contains the latest up-to-date information on the Prostate - how it functions, what can go wrong, how it can best be treated, and how to protect yourself from Prostate problems. The book gives you specific facts on the brand new treatments available for Prostate disorders - from new drugs and medical treatments to natural remedies. The book tells you about a brand new Prostate medication that actually shrinks the Prostate and alleviates symptoms. You'll learn about a simple, little-known blood test which can detect Prostate cancer in the very early stages while it is easily treatable. You'll discover how one doctor uses a specific combination of vitamins to help eliminate Prostate problems. The book tells you about 3 nutrients reported to relieve Prostate symptoms in 6 clinical studies, yet little known to most doctors (available at health food stores). You'll discover which foods may help the Prostate and which foods may cause irritation. The book covers actual case histories of men who suffered Prostate problems and how they were able to overcome their problems. Many men are putting up with troublesome Prostate symptoms because they are unaware of new treatments and the welcomed relief that is now available. *Get all the facts - order your copy today.* *Your Prostate: What Every Man Over 40 Needs To Know Now - £9.95 post paid (coupon below)*

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Why London has lost faith in the Tories

Tony Travers explains why the last Conservative bastion is on the electoral brink

London is the Conservatives' last local government bastion. In the capital, the party runs 11 boroughs outright and heads minority administrations in two more. Much hangs on the forthcoming local government elections when the 32 boroughs have all-out polls.

Today's MORI poll in *The Times* shows the Government running well behind the Labour Party during the first quarter of 1994. But the news from London is even worse for the Tories in the capital: not only are they running well behind Labour, but their support in the capital is continuing to weaken.

The reasons for the Tories' apparent low and falling support probably include the impact of the recession, which has left unemployment of more than 10 per cent in traditionally prosperous places such as Croydon, Enfield and Redbridge. Until the late 1980s, London had had unemployment below the national average ever since records began. Now several of its boroughs are poor enough to qualify for European Union aid.

Worse still, the impact of the recession is also still being felt by many house-holders whose homes are worth less than they bought them during the late-1980s. Hesitant rises in prices have been nowhere near sufficient to rid the capital's aspirant middle classes of the burden of negative equity. Morale-sapping indecision over the future of London's famous hospitals and the abject condition of the clapped-out tube system (both of which are the direct responsibility of the Conservative Government) will hardly have generated middle-class enthusiasm for Tory voting.

Health service reform may have been necessary, but the highly publicised dithering about which hospitals to close and which to keep open has left virtually all of the capital's medical staff and population feeling threatened.

The Government argues that it has spent more on the Underground than its predecessors. Moreover, 30 years of under-investment must be made good. Such excuses cut no ice with commuters stuck (as they were once again last week) in the darkened tunnels or on wind-swept platforms. The antiquity and squalor of the Northern Line, a kind of nightmare theme park, must be worth tens of thousands of votes to the opposition parties.

Opinion polls also continue to suggest that Londoners want some form of "voice" or elected authority to represent their needs. The Government rejects such aspirations out of

hand. Whether or not a new city government for the capital would change anything is a matter of opinion. But in the absence of an effective action to give London a way of articulating its own destiny, the opposition has been able to lay the blame for every difficulty of city life at the feet of a failed government system.

The capital certainly has more than its share of quangio government. Unlike the rest of Britain, public transport, strategic land use planning and the police are all run by central government. London has more of its local government in Whitehall than any other part of the country except Northern Ireland. Public accountability is inevitably reduced.

The table below shows support — in London only — for the three major parties in today's MORI poll, along with the comparable figure for April 1990 and the 1990 borough election result.

On the basis of today's poll evidence, the Conservatives look certain to be squeezed badly on May 5, with swings both to Labour and the Liberal Democrats, suggesting that the Government is increasingly vulnerable to Lib Dem advances in London as well as in the West Country and East Anglia. Tory boroughs including Ealing, Enfield and Croydon could slip to Labour control. Harrow, Bexley, Redbridge and Barnet would also move to no overall control.

If there is a collapse of the Tory vote, Brent, where there is a Tory minority administration, seems likely to fall to Labour, though Brent politics are anything but predictable.

The Liberal Democrats have reasonable hopes of picking up Kingston, needing a tiny swing to push the borough to no overall control. The party has been doing very well in by-elections in Lambeth and Southwark, both of which are currently Labour-held. A big surge in Lib Dem voting could push both to no overall control, and could conceivably allow the Liberals to take control.

The Conservatives are facing heavy losses in London, both of seats and boroughs. It is just conceivable that the Conservatives could be pushed into third place in London. The Lib Dems might even control more boroughs than the Conservatives. Labour will make net gains. How such an inominous result would affect the Tories' chances in the European elections, or the prime minister's future is difficult to say. But it would barely help either cause. On May 6, the Conservatives will know whether the last bastion has fallen.

Major parties	MORI 1st Q 1990	1990 borough result	MORI 1st Q 1994
Conservative	36	38	26
Labour	49	38	52
Liberal Democrats	10	15	20

(per cent support for major parties)

Muddled American policy continues to obstruct progress in Bosnia, says Lawrence Freedman

After the strikes, it's all up in the air

"safe zone" and upon which the air strikes were based was clear enough. So far the air strikes have not stopped the Serbs' bombardment. Nato has shown that its forward spotters can pick out tanks for precision strikes. But its action thus far may have served as a warning rather than as a material impediment to the Serbs.

If the Serbs continue, therefore, Nato may be obliged to choose between punitive targets away from Gorazde (such as ammunition dumps and command centres) with the risk of escalating its involvement, or appearing ineffectual. The success of Nato's February ultimatum may have led to over-optimism about the efficiency of coercion.

First, successful coercion requires that political breakthroughs be reinforced on the ground. As before, the basic problem remains the insufficiency of available UN troops. The

justification for the latest strikes was not the relief of Gorazde itself so much as the defence of UN observers in the town who were sharing the experience of Serbian artillery fire with the inhabitants. The logic of this doctrine is that the Serbs can ease the pressure now by holding fire rather than withdrawing from forward positions. It also implies that the mere presence of UN personnel could serve as a deterrent if, once they come into harm's way, air strikes immediately result.

To follow this doctrine consistently requires even more troops, because every "safe zone" will want a substantial contingent. Astonishingly the Americans have not only been unwilling to send their own troops to fill out the numbers but have imposed limits on how many others can send because they were unwilling to pay

for them as part of their assessed UN contributions.

Second, coercion needs to be linked to an active diplomacy. The breakthroughs of the past two months depended not only on the injection of an unusual degree of credibility into Nato threats, but also on the engagement of America after a period in which it had been contributing little but a high moral stance. The main achievement was the peace deal between the Bosnian Croats and Muslims. That deal, however, made the problem of a general peace harder. The divide-and-rule policy which the Serbs had followed was no longer possible. Instead their opponents were forming their own coalition with resources now released for a spring offensive.

To ease Serb fears the Americans sought to work closely with the Russians. But their energies have

been directed as much to securing a peace in Croatia as in Bosnia. Their objective has been to regularise the position of the secessionist Krajina Serbs as part of Croatia in return for Croatia respecting the rights of Serbs and other minorities. Bosnia is not susceptible to such a solution. The Serbs occupy 72 per cent of the country. They are prepared to hand some back in return for being allowed to go their own way in the rest of the country, but not enough to convince the Bosnian government.

The Serb assault on Gorazde was to warn the Muslims that future fighting will be hard, and to prepare a stronger bargaining position: Gorazde (or at least a road beside it) occupies a critical position in Serbian communications. The short-term issue is whether or not the pressure can be taken off Gorazde itself, but that still leaves hanging the longer-term issue of a peace settlement, and the position of the UN, in the event of fighting picking up again across a broad front. The impression remains that there is no strategy for concluding the Bosnian war, but that policy is opportunistic and reactive. The moment of truth which was feared at the time of the February ultimatum may turn out only to have been postponed.

A farce to make you weep

When the power of the critic is under discussion, beware the rampant ego

If you see me with tears running down my face, do not jump to conclusions: my cat has not died, nor have I been told by the lawyers that I may not call the Home Secretary by the long list of epithets that I had assembled for the purpose, nor is it something so mundane as a grit in my eye — no, it is nothing more nor less than nostalgia, for once again, the theatre is complaining about the critics. Could I have failed to weep a dozen handkerchiefs wet when I heard the news?

The need for handkerchiefs has arisen this time because a kind of seminar has been held under the auspices of *The Guardian*, with the title "The Power of the Critic: disproportionate, exaggerated or essential?" Some kind of *rapporteur* was thought necessary, and the position went to Mr Doug Lucie, a playwright. I have seen only two of his plays — one was about John Clare, and, er, the other wasn't. (My hesitation comes from the fact that Mr Lucie writes plays which all, in one way or another, are about doing down the bourgeoisie — and very fierce he is in his determination to do them down, though they remain, alas, lamentably undecoded — making it difficult to remember which is which.) Anyway, his position here is not directly as playwright, but as scourge of the theatre critics. (The *Evening Standard* carried a substantial chunk of the discussion, from which I took my theme.)

When *The Times* and its Sunday sister had their great shut-down (for almost a year) I had long been the theatre critic of *The Sunday Times*, but as the months wore on with plenty of plays and nowhere to write about them, the very idea of theatre criticism began to be uninteresting. After all, I had been a theatre critic twice before — first for the *Daily Express* and then for the *Daily Mail*. So I told Harry Evans (then Editor of *The Sunday Times*) that I would not come back to the job. From that day forth, I have never been a reviewer, but instead enjoyed the theatre without having to go to work immediately the curtain falls. Nevertheless, for many years I was one of the six judges of the *Evening Standard* theatre awards: I recall one hilarious



Roy Kinnear and Edward Petherbridge as the critics in Tom Stoppard's *The Real Inspector Hound*

Judging evening when a three-three division over the best play — I was leading the pack for *Filumena* — was broken only because I kept my colleagues up till well after two in the morning, announcing that if necessary I would not let them go home for a week, whereupon one of the other side wearily gave in.

Enough of memories: we are here to discuss the theatre's critical theme of the theatre critics. On the theatre's side an august team has been fielded: Nicholas Wright of the *National Theatre*, together with Tim Pigott-Smith and David Thacker of the RSC. In the critics' slit-trench cover Jane Edwards of *Time Out*, Michael Billington of *The Guardian*, and our own Benedict Nightingale. Mr Lucie bangs a metaphorical gavel, and we are off.

Now Mr Lucie is clearly a man of honour; so, I make no doubt, are the three thespians involved. Even the critics have rarely snatched a lollipop from a very small child. But the whole bundle of them, on the theatre's side as on the critics', are wasting their time, every minute of it — not because the argument cannot be resolved, but because of something quite different. It is the truth that is plain to see, but is never told — never — not by playwrights, not by actors, not by producers, nay, not even by programme-sellers, and, incredibly, the truth is never told by the critics either. That terrible truth that must not be

Bernard Levin

revealed is that week in and week out, month in and month out, year in and year out, at least 90 per cent of new plays are rubbish without a redeeming feature, and everyone in and around the theatre knows that to be true.

So when I gathered, in Mr Lucie's denunciation of the critics, that these terrible people "should always read a new play before seeing it", I doubled up with laughter not once but twice — first because of the amazing unlikelihood of the critics wasting their time in that manner, and second because of the sheer barbs of the notion, for any playwright with sense would, and I am sure does, read from such inevitable fixed notions among the critics on the night. Indeed, I recall that when I was a critic I was sometimes asked not to read the play first, and some playwrights whose new work was to be published contemporaneously held the copies back until the first-night curtain had fallen.

Mind you, in Mr Lucie's *sans peur et sans reproche* stance I scent a tiny

touch of *parti pris*, in demanding prior readings among the critics, he slipped in a whine of his own, claiming that because on one occasion Mr Nightingale had not read his latest play before it was staged, Mr Nightingale had fallen into "the embarrassment of completely missing the point" of Mr Lucie's play. And I'll tell you something else while I'm about it: Mr Lucie may well have a real complaint about Mr Nightingale's treatment of his play, and if so Mr Nightingale will feel abashed. But it may never have occurred to Mr Lucie to entertain the thought that the problem might not have been that the play was over Mr Nightingale's head, but that it was so ill-constructed that neither Mr Nightingale nor William Shakespeare could make head or tail of it.

"If they ain't praisin' us, we ain't listenin'." That ancient rubric (I think it was born in Hollywood) is as fresh and true as ever. If you don't believe me, digest the following from Mr Lucie:

The very placing of arts coverage in a newspaper is a statement of its worth in relation to the other components of the paper. The sainted *Guardian*, for instance, puts it right out of harm's way in the tabloid section, while most other papers I come into contact with see its value as residing chiefly in the "celebrity" angle.

And he still doesn't see the point! Very well, I shall show it to him.

The reason that most newspapers, even including the sainted *Guardian*, do not cry "Hold the front page!" when the critic's contribution appears (unless a famous actor has been arrested in the wings, or better still been shot dead on stage) is that the critic's contribution is not only a small one amid the many scores or even hundreds of columns, but is not one that often excites a large part of the readership. Mind, that does not mean that the critic's words are worthless; it only means that his place is a small one, and can never, or almost never, be any bigger. But the great, the crucial, the monumental difference between the critic and the stage is that the critic knows and understands that he is a small frog in a big pond, whereas the Lucies of the theatrical world are convinced that they were born to be huge frogs and to make a tremendous splash in every pond in the land, particularly the big ones.

"So what should the critics do?", asks Mr Lucie, and he answers his own question thus:

I happen to believe, with Michael Billington, that they ought to be a storehouse of comparative experience. They should provide a framework for the confident assessment and reassessment of an art form in progress, providing, play after play, and critic after critic, with a sense of the continuity of the process.

This is precisely the gibberish that my good friend Michael Billington himself began to utter when he went mad and stayed that way. He went mad because he has now been a theatre critic for — you won't believe this — for twenty-three years without a break. Now I was a critic for only a couple of years with the *Daily Express*, and not much longer with the *Mail*; I survived perhaps five years in the trade with *The Sunday Times*, though that stint, remember, did not demand an overnight review. What is more, there were breaks between the periods of servitude. Nevertheless, I was getting close to the funny farm when I finally got off the treadmill.

Come, if Mr Lucie had really understood what he was talking about when he weighed in on the subject of critics, he would have gathered that so far from looking out for opportunities to carve up the playwrights, particularly him, critics spend hours of their days on their knees (look at any critic's knees — all you see is horrible bruises and scabs) praying for something which is not entirely rubbish, and very, very rarely finding it.

Is it any wonder that Billington went mad? The only wonder is that he didn't do so long ago. I beg Mr Nightingale to get out before the twitches begin.

Joan's whizz-bang

FANS of Joan Littlewood will be reassured to know that the angry *grande dame* of workshop theatre has lost none of her fire. The iconoclastic director has just refused to grant the National Theatre permission to perform her best-known play *O What a Lovely War*. She would, she says, rather see the theatre demolished.

The National cannot say it wasn't warned. Last month, discussing her newly published autobiography *Joan's Book*, she described the organisation as "calcified theatre" and a place where she "wouldn't be seen dead".

O What a Lovely War, later turned into a film by Sir Richard Attenborough, was co-authored by Littlewood and staged at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, in 1963. Since then it has been performed all over the world.

But not, it seems, at the National. Last month the theatre applied to Littlewood in the hope of producing the play in early autumn. When Littlewood issued a refusal through her agent, the director of the National, Richard Eyre, wrote to her in France begging her to reconsider.

explaining that the play had inspired him to get into the theatre in the first place.

The reply was short and to the point. Littlewood, he says, "courteously" thanked him for his letter, but replied that it would be better to "bomb that building". Her objections are, Eyre says, not only to the building itself, which she refers to privately as a "concrete mausoleum", but to the concept of state-funded theatre.

Eyre cannot hide his disappointment. "I am in a very odd position, I admire her, and that show, more than anything in the theatre, I have directed it three times. It's over 30 years since it has been seen in London. It is a wonderful piece of theatre."

Repro man

LORD Gowrie made his first public appearance as chairman of the Arts Council yesterday, at Courts Bank in the Strand, where he launched the second David Cohen British Literature Prize. But he has yet to take up office in the physical sense. "I'm camping at the moment, as they're still decorating," he says.

After the painters have finished, however, Gowrie plans to make his mark by moving in a desk which he believes appropriate to the new post. The original was designed by Her Majesty's Treasury for the deposed Emperor Napoleon when exiled in St Helena, he says. "But I couldn't afford the £40,000 or so it reached when it came up for sale at Sotheby's — so I got a copy made."

Fittingly for an Arts Council office, the desk is utilitarian. "They did not want any Imperialist trappings like gilt for an emperor in exile. It was, after all, designed by the Treasury." But unlike Napoleon's, Gowrie's was not paid for by the Treasury. Being a former minister of means these days, he paid for it himself.

ROBERT Harting, the veteran journalist who moved on last year after 36 years in the editor's chair at House & Garden, has a new job. He has been signed up by Perspectives, the architectural magazine backed and contributed to by the Prince of Wales. "Robert is writing about garden buildings and conservatories in the next issue," says Dan Cruikshank, the editor. "He's been in the business so long and knows as much as anyone. You can't keep him down — he's about 85, but he's still full of wonderful stories."



Whistle-blower

THE appointment of David Elleray, a Harrow householder, as this year's FA Cup final referee, has caused much scarf-waving and rattle-shaking on the hill. For it was an Old Harrovian, Charles W. Alcock, who invented the FA Cup, modelling it on Harrow's knockout competition. Not only that, but, from 1885 to 1899 Alcock was a student in

Druries, the house that Elleray now heads.

Alcock joined the Football Association as secretary in 1870, accepting a salary only from 1887 until his retirement in 1895. The first FA Cup in 1872 was a comparatively quiet affair, with 15 clubs. Next month's final, Elleray realises, will be a rather noisier event, both at Wembley, where Chelsea will do battle with as yet undecided opponents, and in Druries. His boys take a keen interest, he says. "They should be glued to the television — if they're not playing cricket."

Let's ring again to the Trump of the Twenty-two men

625

DIARY

D-Day memory

THE GERMANS will, after all, be represented in Britain during the D-Day anniversary celebrations. Oberst Hans von Luck, a Panzergranadier commander in Normandy during the invasion, has been asked to contribute an article to the Imperial War Museum's official commemorative publication.

Von Luck's version of events on D-Day will be published in a glossy magazine by the museum on June 2, alongside contributions from John Major, as well as Presidents Clinton, Mitterrand and Yeltsin. There is no sign, however, that Chancellor Kohl has been asked to put pen to paper.

"Major von Luck was seven miles north of the invading airborne division at Caen and could have gone south to wipe out the glider-borne troops and the paras," says Barrie Pitt, the historian and editor of the magazine.

Thankfully, those orders never came. "We were told to stay where we were," says Von Luck. "We could have made things a bit tricky for the British if we had attacked because we would have reached the beach."

A MUST for all steam engine enthusiasts is being advertised in the latest edition of *Railway Magazine*. A new compact disc, "Portrait of Steam", features such hits as "A Plymouth-Liverpool passenger train at Llanvhanget Summit". That is not to forget, of course, the ever-popular "A Liverpool-Plymouth passenger train at Llanvhanget Summit".

Wanted: country house, novel setting

IT IS not just the casting of D'Arcy that is causing the BBC headaches as it prepares to serialise *Pride and Prejudice*. The producers are having some difficulty finding a convincing Pemberley, the Derbyshire seat of the novel's dashing hero. The National Trust has been brought in to help in the hunt.

Austen's fictional mansion is said to have been influenced by Bowood House in Wiltshire, the 18th-century home of the Earl of Shelburne. But the main house at Bowood was demolished in 1955, so the BBC is having to look elsewhere. The question is just how grand does the house need to be?

Emma Tennant, whose sequel *Pemberley* was published last year, believes Chatsworth would be right. "I've always thought that was where it was meant to be."

So far, Kedleston Hall, near Derby, has been rejected and attention is turning to Lyme Park outside Stockport. But the BBC has at least made up its mind about one role. Jennifer Ehle, fondly remembered for her revealing performance as *Catharine* in the adaptation of *Mary Wesley's* *Catharine*, will play Elizabeth Bennet.



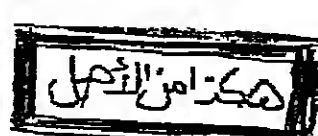
Emma Tennant, left, and Jennifer Ehle, cast as Elizabeth

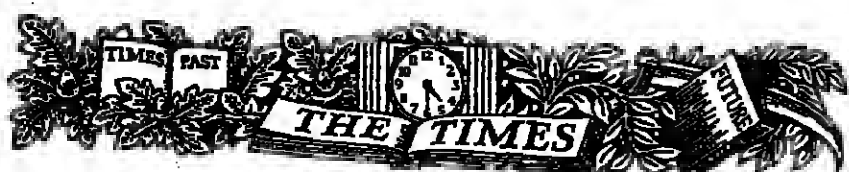


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APRIL FOOLS

Gorazde's plight is a consequence of American wavering

At the eleventh hour, Nato air power is being used in Gorazde in a desperate attempt to rectify serious errors of judgment, both military and political. For more than a week, the military significance of the Bosnian Serbs' Operation Whirlwind was dismissed by everybody except the Bosnian government, which on April 1 addressed an urgent, and fruitless, appeal to the White House. Gorazde is a "safe area" under United Nations protection: Unprofor should have called in Nato when the offensive started, long before the Bosnian Serb forces were within shelling distance of the town centre. Nearly 1,000 Bosnian civilians have been killed or wounded as a consequence of this extraordinary miscarriage of justice.

The charitable explanation for Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose's refusal to believe that Gorazde was in serious danger is that his eye was on the larger prize. He has spent most of the past week struggling to bring about an interim settlement between the Bosnian government and the Bosnian Serbs, complementing the federation agreement between the Muslims and Croats, which would stop the fighting throughout Bosnia.

Since last Wednesday, with the active involvement of President Clinton's envoy, Charles Redman, he has been mainly engaged in drafting and redrafting the terms of a truce which, he hoped, would finally meet the American conditions for joining the UN's peacekeeping operation on the ground. Even on Saturday, he still believed that this might be signed by tomorrow, even though an enormous gap remained between the truce without strings which the Bosnian Serbs were only too happy to accept, and the guaranteed Bosnian Serb retreat from conquered territory that the Bosnian government quite reasonably insists on.

Meanwhile, in an all-too-familiar pattern, the Bosnian Serbs talked peace and made war. For this, the Clinton Administration

bears a heavy responsibility. America's insistence late last month on cutting by more than half the Secretary-General's request to deploy 8,500 more UN troops in Bosnia was folly enough. It was compounded when William Perry, the US Secretary of Defence, said bluntly and publicly a week ago that the US would not support the use of force to prevent the capture of Gorazde. As Mr Perry should have foreseen, Operation Whirlwind went into top gear the next day. It then took Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, a full week to reassert America's unequivocal support for using Nato air power if requested by Unprofor.

Such equivocation has inflicted diplomatic as well as military damage. Russia, which has a strong national interest in Balkan peace, was working closely with American diplomats until Washington's attention seemed once again to be wandering. The drama of Nato's deployment at this late stage makes President Yeltsin's domestic balancing act tougher: hence the renewed demands for consultation. An automatic Nato response to the violation of the "safe area" would have created far less difficulty.

If the UN's credibility is to be restored, a mere ceasefire will now be insufficient. Compelling the Bosnian Serbs to withdraw when Gorazde is within their grasp will be extremely difficult; but without their trust, out of range of the entire enclave. The Americans must drop their opposition to adequate Unprofor reinforcements — General Rose should have been in a position to send troops to Gorazde when the fighting started. And Belgrade and Pale, which want and need a truce to neutralise the Muslim-Croat entente, must be left in no doubt that the broader territorial claims of the Bosnian government must be met. The West has come perilously close to losing the momentum for peace that the conjunction of force and diplomacy, sword and pen, had begun to achieve. The high ground must be regained.

A EUROPEAN BATTLEGROUND

Opposition parties may woo the middle classes from the Tories

To Conservatives back at Westminster after their Easter recess, today's MORI poll for *The Times* will come as an unwelcome jolt. It suggests that Labour could win three-quarters of the seats in June's Euro-elections, with the Tories and Liberal Democrats battling for a distant second place. Even if May's local election results can be presented as an improvement in the governing party's fortunes, disguising such a disaster in June will be difficult.

The difference between the two is the baseline from which they will be judged. The local seats were lost in 1990 when the Conservatives were at a terribly low ebb. The Euro-elections were held the previous year, in June 1989, when the Tories were level-pegging with Labour in the polls. Still they lost 13 seats, to score 32 in all.

Today's evidence suggests a far worse showing. Assuming a uniform national swing, the Conservatives could be left with just 15 seats to Labour's 66 and the Liberal Democrats' three. Using a regional breakdown, however, which shows the centre party doing far better in the South-West, the Tories' share may fall to just eight seats, behind the Liberal Democrats on ten.

Doubtless this will induce short-term panic among Tory MPs, possibly even leading to the ousting of the Prime Minister. But longer term, the implications are just as interesting for the opposition parties. Liberal Democrats have always been hampered in general elections by two charges: that a vote for them is a wasted vote because they win so few seats; and that a vote for them simply lets in Labour. If they do win a respectable number of seats in June, these charges may lose some of their force.

The "wasted vote" argument rests on the premise that centre party support is so uniformly spread around the country that

Liberal Democrat candidates tend to come second or third rather than first. With a first-past-the-post electoral system, parties with concentrated regional support do far better. If June's elections show that the centre party has won a regional stronghold in the South-West, and is capable of winning more than a few parliamentary seats there, voting for it will no longer look so wasteful.

Meanwhile Labour's return to relative respectability is good news for the Liberal Democrats. Disaffected former Conservatives, who could not have contemplated a Labour government led by Michael Foot or Neil Kinnock, might be intrigued by the prospect of a minority government headed by John Smith and moderated by reliance on a centre party holding the balance of power.

It is the possible defection of their natural allies that should most worry the Conservatives. Today's poll shows that the Tories' lead over Labour among the middle classes has dropped from 32 points at the last general election to just one point now. If they work in the private sector, they have been hit by recession; if in the public sector, by government policies such as market-testing. These voters feel more precarious than they have ever done before: worried about their jobs, their pensions, their health and their children's education.

Labour has won general elections only when it has converted a sizeable chunk of the middle classes to its cause: just as the Tories under Margaret Thatcher based their election victories on stealing much of Labour's natural constituency. The danger for the Conservatives, of which June's Euro-elections may be a portent, is that at the next general election, the opposition parties may mount a successful raid on the Tories' most reliable source of support. Good generals usually win by outflanking their enemies.

SCOTS SERMON HANDICAP

Preaching is a rhetorical genre that should not be kept short

The Church of Scotland today condemns boredom in worship as "a lethal sin". A report from its panel on worship uses stately language to discuss the place of the sermon in the new world of soundbite and briefest attention span. Fire-and-brimstone ministers of the past centuries would applaud its rhetoric, but not its minimalist message.

The Kirk is mistaken in its fashionable disparagement of the longer sermon. The most popular versions of this ancient oratorical genre on the radio have become so apologetically short that there is hardly time to drag in the compulsory topical reference before the weather forecast.

Length should be part of the educative function of sermons. They are reminders that we were not sent into this world entirely for pleasure, and that after even the weariest sermon comes Sunday lunch. Louis Bourdaloue, the greatest 17th-century French pulpit-orator, gave his eponym to a lady's comforter to be worn under the skirt for emergencies, when he had thundered on for too long.

The Rev. Heppenstall's sermon on brotherly love lasted for 45 minutes, provided he did not accidentally drop several pages of excursions. Alan Bennett's sermon in *Beyond the Fringe*, to the text of "And behold, Esau was a hairy man", compared life to a tin of

the key, and in which there is always an irretrievable morsel left in the corner. It went on for an appropriately long time.

In its pursuit of brevity and relevance in sermons, the Church of Scotland is pandering to ephemeral modern fads. Preaching is one of the oldest vernacular forms in all languages, including Scottish. It has shaped the drama and rhetoric of speech. Medieval sermons are among the earliest examples of original English prose. From John Donne to Billy Graham and the rascally modern television evangelists, preachers have been putting the fear of God and the hyperbole of the word into their congregations. At suitable length.

As Martin Luther King preached at length and with the fuzziness of the true sermon: "How long? Not long, because no lie can live for ever. How long? Not long, because you will reap what you sow. How long? Not long, because the arm of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice." As long as it takes is the answer.

Length is immaterial to sermons, even in the Church of Scotland. Eloquence and the drama of the biblical phrases are what matter. And even truth. Sermons should combine intelligence with emotion. They need not be turned into advertising slogans. In spite of the 20th century, religion is still

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9KN Telephone 071-782 5000

More school sport, but only if teachers play the game

From the Head Master of Wallington County Grammar School

Sir, While welcoming the commitment of the Minister for Sport, Mr Iain Sproat, to school sport (report and leading article, April 8), I believe that five "curriculum" sports are too many.

While all boys coming to this school know how to play soccer, most need much more nurture and coaching before they can play rugby to a reasonable standard. Rather than attempt to do both sports, Wallington specialises so that we can field nine rugby teams on a normal Saturday. Pupils who wish to play soccer competitively do so in Sunday leagues.

The minister has suggested additional payments to staff helping with a range of extra-curricular activities. This simple expedient will accomplish far more than legislation, provided it remains genuinely voluntary for those staff who choose to be involved in extra-curricular activities.

In recent months, the finances of this grant-maintained school have eased and governors have been able to pay expenses and a small honorarium to those colleagues who run teams with fixtures on Saturdays. They have done so freely for many years. However, extra-curricular activities are a fundamental part of the education offered at my school and the time given by staff in this way is worthy of recognition.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN HAWORTH,
Head Master,
Wallington County Grammar School,
Croydon Road, Wallington, Surrey,
April 8.

From Mr David Lomas

Sir, The campaign by the Minister for Sport to breathe much-needed new life into school sport is to be applauded and is long overdue. In the view of the National Council for Schools' Sports, the most important resource in school sport is the teacher.

The negative response towards Mr Sproat's "leaked" plans from the National Union of Teachers (report, April 9) is understandable. Compulsory involvement of teachers is not the answer.

Means must be found to encourage teachers to assist in extra-curricular school sport and so to provide increased opportunities for children to participate with a sense of enjoyment and achievement in team and individual sports, both competitive and non-

competitive. It is unfortunate that Mr Sproat's initiatives do not appear to be supported by the Department for Education.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID LOMAS,
Honorary Secretary, National Council for Schools' Sports,
21 Northampton Road,
Croydon, Surrey,
April 6.

From Mr Stewart Reuben

Sir, Iain Sproat has initiated an important debate on team games in schools, but the implications are wider than this narrow aspect of our culture. Extra-curricular activities of all types have been greatly damaged in the last decade.

Professionalism can be defined as continuing until the job is finished. Teachers are now required to work a specific number of hours. Small wonder they are no longer interested in developing activities not on the rigid curriculum outside these hours. Yet, without exposure to a wide variety of different interests, how can anyone hope to choose those which will be of personal benefit?

Thus we have seen the mass destruction of a major facet of the quality of life of young people. Let us hope initiatives will now be developed to reverse this distressing trend.

Yours faithfully,
S. REUBEN,
(Director of Home Chess,
British Chess Federation),
11 Haversham Close,
Twickenham, Middlesex,
April 11.

From Mr Howard Lewis

Sir, Your leader, "Competitive sport has a place in every school", left me feeling more than a little depressed. I am a teacher. I am not "left-wing". I have no ideological barrier to competitive sport. I am a competitive games player. Once I was able to indulge my passion for games, with my pupils, as an extra-curricular activity.

Then came the national curriculum and my life is now an administrative nightmare. Even teaching would appear to be of secondary importance to the necessity to justify my professional judgments on my pupils' progress. I arrive in school at 8am and leave after 6pm, with a briefcase of work. I would love to be released from the burdens of administration imposed by this Government and, with my pupils, be allowed the freedom to in-

Video 'nasties'

From the Director General of the British Video Association

Sir, Your leader today on the banning of videos suggests that David Alton's amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill, on which the Commons will vote tomorrow, would not outlaw apparently innocuous video films, such as *Tootsie* and *101 Dalmatians*. The only way the video industry could comply with the law suggested by the amendment would be to stop selling or renting videos classified as 15 or 18. This would affect such films as *The Bodyguard*, *Chaplin*, *Pretty Woman* and, when released, *The Piano* and *Schindler's List*.

You rightly point out that there is public concern over the effects of excessively violent films. But my guess is that the public do not want to be deprived of the opportunity to view enjoyable 15 and 18 videos in their own homes. If successful, MPs who vote for David Alton's amendment will wake up on Wednesday morning and find they have done just that.

Yours faithfully,
LAVINIA CAREY,
(Director General),
British Video Association,
22 Poland Street, W1,
April 11.

From Mr Mark Jovitt

Sir, Your leader points to the experience of other European countries, and then promptly dismisses it as irrelevant. What evidence do you have that "family bonds are stronger and home life is more cohesive" in other European countries?

If Britain really is so different in this respect, surely the central objective of that emotive debate should not consist in restricting choice even further; rather, it should consist in understanding why we are becoming a "sink culture", and why all our near neighbours appear to be more balanced than we are.

Yours,
MARK JOWITT,
Middle Farm, Horsleygate Lane,
Holmesfield, Sheffield,
April 11.

Pensions and pay

From Mr A. Sheldon

Sir, I thoroughly agree with N. G. Harris, DFC (letter, April 6), about the difference between the pension of the RAF VC and the huge payouts to servicemen who get themselves pregnant.

Is there any reason why those women should not be made to pay back the amount spent on their service training to the appropriate department?

Yours faithfully,
A. SHELDON,
6 Kirkstead Gardens, Nottingham.

Not in vain after all?

From the Co-Chairmen of the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry

Sir, Looking at today's Russia and remembering his work for Soviet Jews, Bernard Levin asks (March 29): "Was it really all in vain?" At the risk of proving that we are the optimists he described us, we would deny the justification for his "implacable despair".

In Israel there are more than three quarters of a million ex-Soviet Jews living independent lives as Jews with control over their future. Their friends and relations remaining in the former Soviet Union are, for the present at least, able, with very few exceptions, to emigrate to Israel and we hope that they will do so with the least possible delay.

It is only natural that the Russians, who have never enjoyed political freedom, should feel nostalgia for the communist certainties of the past and, with the ultra-nationalists waiting in the wings, the situation is volatile to an alarming degree.

Optimists may be, but Russia is indeed a case for alarm, if not yet for despair.

Yours faithfully,
RITA EKER,
MARGARET RIGAL,
Co-Chairmen,
Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry,
Parnell House,
77-79 Finchley Road, NW11,
April 6.

Kiwis and Poms

From Dr Rob Buist

Sir, As a New Zealander who has recently emigrated to the United Kingdom, I have little sympathy for Jo Andrews, who moved in the opposite direction ("The cost of becoming a Kiwi", April 6).

At least she was informed of the medical requirements for entering New Zealand before travelling. My wife and I arrived at Heathrow after a 25-hour flight, with two small children, to have to join the chest X-ray queue.

At least Ms Andrews will be able to set up a bank account and have access to her own money within the same day. Insuring her car will not cost her an arm and a leg. Certainly her house won't be identical to all others in her street.

She will be able to buy a world-beating bottle of white wine for £5, or red for £10, and a meal at a five-star restaurant will cost her £15-£20 (plus wine). She now has a television set that works and it will receive significantly fewer Australian soap operas than mine does over here and at least she is spared *Don't Forget Your Toothbrush*.

Yours faithfully,
ROB BUIST,
14 Icknield Close,
St Albans, Hertfordshire.

duge my passion for sport. But, where oh where, Mr Sproat, or when oh when, Mr Patten, am I to find, or will I be given, the time?

Yours faithfully,
HOWARD P. LEWIS,
63 Beech Road,
Alresford, Hampshire,
April 8.

From Mr E. G. Abel

Sir, It is excellent that plans are afoot for the revival of school sport. How much better, though, in denser areas of population, to have pooled facilities, run by the private sector or trusts.

This would have many advantages, including greater utilisation of the facilities — thus enabling them to be better: new jobs, and use of skilled and enthusiastic coaches; no extra burden on teachers who might be unskilled and unenthusiastic in sport.

It must be true that many youngsters would benefit from greater physical exercise, challenge and the chance to do something well if they are not very academic.

Yours sincerely,
E. GUY ABEL,
56 Telford Avenue, SW2,
April 8.

From Mr Tom Williams

Sir, I do not enjoy contact sports and team games and prefer more sedentary competitive activities. I strongly recommend the charms of judo against any school which allows my son to be assaulted as part of some government-approved exercise in "Strength Through Joy".

Should other parents take the same line, the Government may discover a renewed enthusiasm for the traditional values of running the schools as educational establishments and leaving my family to its own choice of recreational pursuit.

Yours faithfully,
T. C. WILLIAMS,
277a Richmond Road,
Twickenham, Middlesex,
April 8.

From Mr M. C. Kenyon

Sir, Regarding Iain Sproat's blueprint for the revival of school sport, what do politicians know about "winning modestly and losing gracefully"?

Yours faithfully,
M. C. KENYON,
68 Westwark Road, Thorpe Hesley,
Rotherham, South Yorkshire,
April 8.

Treasures of Iraq

From Mr Ben Ward

Sir, As a depressing postscript to your obituary (April 9) of the American archaeologist, Richard Starr, I must point out that many objects from his excavations at Yorgan Tepe (ancient Nuzi) in Iraq which were in the regional museum at Kirkuk have been stolen — a consequence of the upheavals created by the Gulf War.

The scale of looting of Iraq's regional museums (notably those at Kirkuk, Basra and Dihok) has been enormous. Two volumes of inventories of the stolen objects (including photographs) have been published by the American Association for Oriental Research in Baghdad and the British School of Archaeology in Iraq.

The objects come from all periods of Iraq's long and distinguished historical past: notable among them are cylinder seals from Nippur and Nineveh and Hellenistic figurines from the site of Seleucia on the Tigris.

The Iraqi department of antiquities and heritage has been diligent in identifying the stolen antiquities and alerting organisations such as the International Foundation for Art Research, the US Customs and Interpol. It is to be hoped that, if and when these items appear on the international art market, dealers and auction houses will make appropriate enquiries, establish their provenance and ensure that these culturally invaluable items will be returned to their true owners — the people of Iraq.

Yours faithfully,
BEN WARD,
(Managing Editor, *International Journal of Cultural Property*),
53 Queens Grove, NW8.

Home thoughts

From Dr A. N. Eastaugh

Sir, I am sure the Bishop of Peterborough should leave his palace (report, March 23), but your articles (March 26, April 1) and the correspondence (April 1) paint it as an embarrassing white elephant, hindering the bishop's ministry. It need not be.

As the last of the "multitude of children" that filled "the empty bedrooms" (Valerie Grove interview) when my father was bishop in the early 1960s, I remember enervating the arrival of visiting clerics with a gun which fired ping-pong balls from my bedroom window; meanwhile, my older sisters turned up the record player to regale them with the more explicit lyrics from *Hair*.

The family atmosphere and open house to all sorts and all ages were a real asset to my father's job and enriched his ministry. It is not just money the Church is short of but also bishops who have young families.

Yours,
ANDREW EASTAUGH,
South Cove House, Wrentham.

Worries at change in disability rules

From Professor Lindsay McLellan and others

Sir, We are writing to express our deep concern at the Government's proposals to alter the grounds on which benefits are paid to people who are unable to work because of continuing disability (repon, "Medical claimants face tough new benefits test", and leading article, December 2, 1993; letter, December 7). The essence of these proposals is a belief that the capacity to undertake any kind of work can be defined by a medical test — to be introduced next April — that ignores the attributes, personality and circumstances of the disabled person, with certain exceptions.

There is no specific evidence to support this belief. The proposals are, in our considered opinion, fundamentally flawed, having no scientific or logical credibility. The reasons given for the proposed changes appear to us to be specious and disingenuous and we wish publicly to dissociate ourselves from them.

We believe that the proposed changes will increase the financial disadvantage currently experienced by people who are unable to work because of illness or disability and will seriously increase current inequalities in the allocation of financial benefits.

We urge the Government to reconsider its plans, which we regard as prejudicial to the relationship between doctors and their patients and highly prejudicial to the interests of those whose disability has rendered them unable to obtain work.

Yours faithfully,
D. L. MCLELLAN,
CAIRNS AITKEN (Edinburgh),
MICHAEL BARNES
(Newcastle upon Tyne),
ANNE CHAMBERLAIN (Leeds),
DAVID RUSHTON (London),
University of Southampton,
Rehabilitation Research Unit,
Level C, West Wing,
Southampton General Hospital,
Tremona Road, Southampton,
April 8.

Roads in Scotland

From Mr John A. Riddell-Webster

Sir, In his article, "Mr Major's phoney war" (March 30), Simon Jenkins accuses the EU of "currying favour with sub-national regions" and adds: "The bribes are already producing hundreds of miles of unnecessary roads in Scotland."

Whether you are prepared to patronise Scotland as a "sub-national region" or to view European support for the improvement of that country's infrastructure as a bribe rather than the just return of our own money depends on your political outlook.

What is indisputable is that this modernisation of Scotland's road network is long overdue. Now that European aid is admitted to be additional to the UK's block allocation to the Scottish Office, it is to be welcomed at a time when budgeting stringency has, in real terms, strictly reduced expenditure on roads.

European aid has made only a tiny impact to date but it will, I hope, be increasingly invested in roads which are not only necessary now but which have been, in some instances, sorely needed for years past.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. RIDDELL-WEBSTER
(Chairman),
Transport Action Scotland,
17 Royal Terrace, Glasgow,
April 5.

Jungle rescue aid

From Professor J. H. Turnbull

Sir, The ingenious jungle rescue aid described by Major John Graham (letter, April 1) calls for comment.

The use of "carbide" dampened with water would fill the signal balloon with acetylene, a gas only slightly lighter than air. To lift the balloon with its attached rope above the jungle canopy a more buoyant gas would almost certainly be required.

This could be achieved simply by inflating the balloon with hydrogen generated from moistened lithium hydride, more probably the operative chemical actually provided in the kit.

Yours sincerely,
J. H. TURNBULL,
Stoneycroft, Alverstoke, Oxfordshire,
April 1.

Female of the species

From Vice Admiral Sir Roderick Macdonald

Sir, Just about 30 years ago a Royal Marine Commando team successfully climbed Mount Kinabalu (report and leading article, March 26; letter, April 1) up a precipitous side. The group photograph posed on the summit was almost spoiled by the simultaneous arrival up the tourist path of a Girl Guides' picnic party from Jesselton (now Kota Kinabalu).

Yours faithfully,
RODERICK MACDONALD
(Commander, Naval Forces
Borneo, 1965-66),
Ollach, Braes, Isle of Skye,
April 2.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be



COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 11: The Queen was represented by Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Miller (Extra Equerry) at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Colonel Sir Michael Ansell which was held in St Michael's Church, Windsor, on April 11.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Major General Jack Reynolds.

The Prince of Wales was represented by Major General Patrick Brooking.

The Princess Royal was represented by the Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent were represented by Mr Nicolas Adamson.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 11: The Duke of York this morning arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, from Los Angeles, United States of America.

Captain Neil Blair RN and Mr Geoffrey Crawford were in attendance.

Birthdays today

Mr Alan Ayckbourn, playwright, 55; Mr Bill Bryden, theatre director, 42; Miss Monique Caballé, opera singer, 61; Mr Brian Connolly, writer and broadcaster, 78; Miss Elspeth Gray, actress, 66; Mr H.R. Hewitt, former chairman, Johnson Matthey, 74; the Right Rev John T. Hughes, former Bishop of the Forces, 86; Mr Iwe Kizinger, former president, Templeton College, Oxford, 66; the Earl of Limerick, 64; Mr A.W. Mabbs, architect, 73; Mr Bryan Magee, writer, 64; Mr Marshall Sir Harold Maguire, 82; Mr E.C. Meade, chartered accountant, 71; Dr Hilary Nicolle, educationist, 49; Mr Harold Penrose, test pilot and air historian, 90; Lady Ricketts, former chairman, National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux, 75; Mr George Robertson, MP, 48; Mr Wendy Savage, obstetrician and gynaecologist, 59.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Dame Josephine Barnes was the speaker at a meeting of the Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Miss Hazel Ellis presided.

Service dinner

Royal Engineers
Mr Geoffrey Blackburne-Kane presided at the 50th anniversary dinner of members of No 8 Royal Engineers, Short Course, Cambridge (1944), held last night at Pembroke College, Cambridge. General Sir Hugh Beach was the principal guest and speaker. Major-General Peter Campbell also spoke.

Royal engagements

The Queen, as Patron of the Cinema and Television Benevolent Fund, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will open the new World Bank building at the Duke of York's Palace, Grosvenor Gardens, Westminster, on April 12.

The Duke of York, as Patron of the SS Great Britain project, will visit SS Great Britain at Great Western Dock, Gas Ferry Road, Bristol, at 11.30; as Admiral, will visit the Sea Cadets at Thornbury at 2.30; and will attend a Golf Foundation dinner at the Royal Hotel at 7.30.

The Princess Royal, as President of the Save the Children Fund, will attend a reception at the Bank of England at 6.30 to launch Children in Cities 1994.

Princess Margaret will visit St Margaret's Church of England Youth Centre at Prestwick, Manchester, at 3.00; will open the Northern Ballet School's new theatre at Oxford Road, Manchester, at 7.00; and, as President of the NSPCC, will attend a performance by the school in aid of the society.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Patron of the Westminster Society, will attend the annual meeting at the Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies at 5.35.

The Duke of Kent, as Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, will attend the language awards at BAFTA at 5.50.

Princess Alexandra, as Patron of the National Association for Mental Health, will open the MIND Centre at 42 Saturday Market, Bury, at 2.00; as Patron of the Alzheimer's Disease Society, will visit the Hull and East Yorkshire branch office at Centre 88, Salford, at 3.10; and will open the Glanford Brigg generating station of the Yorkshire Electricity Group at Scawby Brook, Brigg, South Humberside, at 4.25.

Roman treasure hoard is bought by British Museum

Gardener receives reward of £1.75m

By JOHN YOUNG

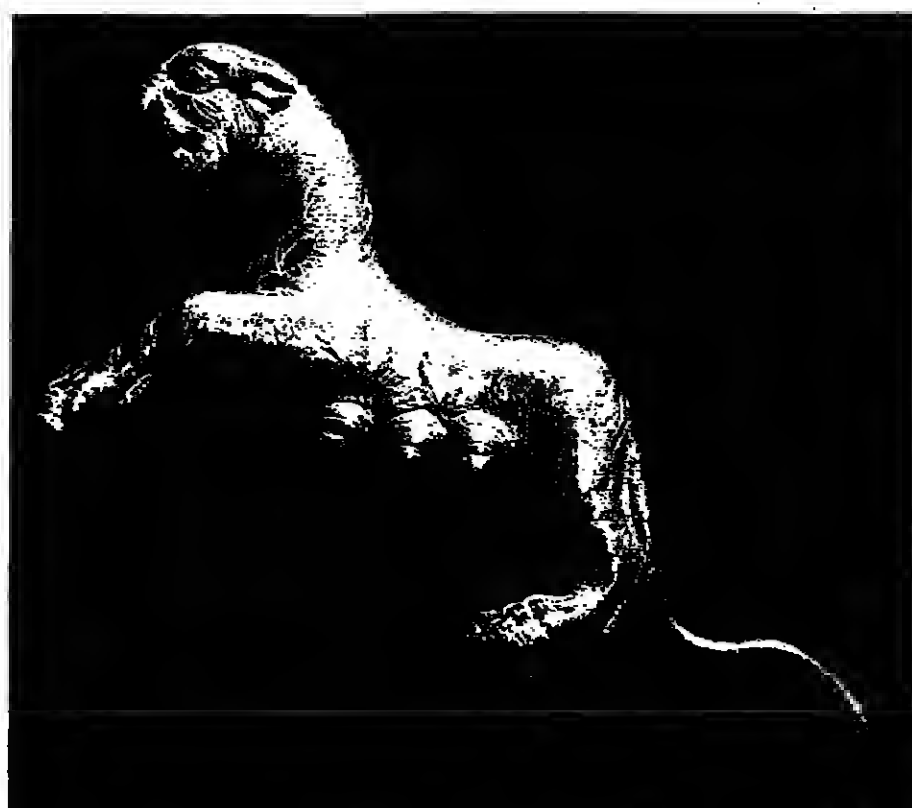
THE HOME HOARD, probably the finest collection of Roman treasures yet found in Britain, has been acquired for the nation at a cost of £1.75 million, it was announced yesterday. The collection of gold and silver coins, tableware, jewellery and ornaments will go on display at the British Museum next month.

The money, which has been raised through donations and with assistance from the National Heritage Memorial Fund and the National Art Collections Fund, will go to Eric Lawes, 60, a retired gardener of Denham, Suffolk, who discovered the hoard in November 1992. At the time he was using a metal detector to look for tools which had fallen off a tractor in a field on the Norfolk-Suffolk border.

In September last year an inquest jury at Lowestoft Crown Court, Suffolk, decided that the 14,780 items had been buried with the intention of recovery, or opposed to being lost. They were therefore declared to be treasure trove, entitling Mr Lawes to a reward equivalent to the market value.

The dates on the coins indicate that the hoard was buried some time after AD 408 during the Roman withdrawal from Britain. It is thought to have belonged to a wealthy Roman family, the Faustini, who evidently panicked at news of the approach of the marauding Saxons.

Mr Lawes told the inquest that, while looking for a hammer belonging to a local farmer, he had decided to follow a track between two rows of drillings. He found several coins close to the surface and then, acting on a strong signal from the detector, dug down about a foot and came across a number of



Solid cast silver statuette of a tigress, originally used as the handle for a vase

gold coins on top of the other objects.

After filling two bags with coins, he went to find the farmer, Peter Wadding, who called in the Suffolk Archaeological Unit. The two men agreed to share the reward.

The coins date from 14 imperial reigns, the latest that of Constantine III, who was elected "emperor" by his army in York in AD 407, at a time when the structures of Roman rule were crumbling.

The rest of the treasure comprises gold jewellery, silver spoons, ladies' bowls and other table decorations, together with the silver figures of a hare and hound, a goat or ibex and Hermes wrestling the giant Antaeus. The bases of these figures are perforated, suggesting that they were used as pepperpots.

A spokesman for the British Museum trustees said yesterday that they would be seeking the help of private companies and other organisations in repaying the "considerable" loan from the National Heritage Memorial Fund. The size of the loan was not disclosed.



From the hoard, a silver empress used as a pepperpot

Forthcoming marriages

Mr E.D.J. Daly

and Miss C.F. Clarke

The engagement is announced between Henry, son of the late Mr James Daly and of Mrs James Daly, of Putney, Herefordshire, and Charlotte, daughter of Captain and Mrs Simon Clarke, of Shaftesbury, Dorset.

Mr I.R.D. Houghton

and Miss M.E. Myers

The engagement is announced between Ian, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Houghton, of Ramsgate, Kent, and Mary-Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Timothy Myers, of Easton Royal, Wiltshire.

Mr A.G. Marshall

and Miss E.C. Bigland

The engagement is announced, from Saigon, between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Robin Marshall, of Denham, Buckinghamshire, and Emma, eldest daughter of Mr Robert Bigland, of Chelsea, and Mrs Carole Bigland, of Albury Heath, Surrey.

Mr A.K. Rae

and Miss F.M. Watt

The engagement is announced between Gavin, only son of Mr and Mrs G.K. Rae, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, and Joyce, daughter of Mr and Mrs K. Watt, of Ingstons, Essex.

Mr G.S. Raw

and Miss H.L. Bowtell

The engagement is announced between Gavin, only son of Mr and Mrs G.K. Raw, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, and Joyce, daughter of Mr and Mrs K. Ashcroft, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Mr J.M.P.D. Sroyan

and Miss L. Houghton

The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Brigadier David Wilson, of Lamberhurst, Kent, and the late Mrs Sylvia Wilson, and Lorna, daughter of the late Mr Tuck Houghton and of Mrs Patsy Houghton, of Chum Pae, Klong Kae, Thailand.

Mr A.J.G. Wilson

and Miss L. Houghton

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Marriages

Mr E. Braggins Preece

and Miss A. Slater

The marriage took place in Islington, London, on Saturday, April 9, between Mr Enrique Braggins Preece and Miss Anna Slater.

Mr J.S.C. Fry

and Miss R.A. King-Webster

A service of blessing took place on April 9, 1994, at St Paul's Walden Parish Church, Whitwell, Hertfordshire, following the marriage of John Fry and Annie King-Webster.

Mr P.A. Whelan

and Miss K.F.L. Spence

The marriage took place on Saturday, April 9, 1994, at St Luke's Church, Chelsea, of Mr P.A. Whelan, elder son of Mr and Mrs Vincent Whelan, of Stalybridge, Cheshire, to Miss Kate Spence, only daughter of Colonel and Mrs Mike Spence, of Bahrain.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Robert Clarke, Senior

Chaplain, Winchester Health

Authority (Winchester) and a Chaplain to HM the Queen has been seconded to the Hospital Chaplaincy Council, Church House, Westminster, as Secretary and Director of Training.

The Rev Stephen Cope, Curate, St

Matthew, Northampton (Peterborough); to be Vicar of Rodston, W. Byrom and Kilham (York).

The Rev Daniel Coates, to be

licensed as a Six-Precinct Curate of Canterbury Cathedral (Canterbury).

The Rev Geoffrey Davis, Vicar,

Boughton Monchelsea; to be a Six-Precinct Curate of Canterbury Cathedral (Canterbury).

The Rev Timothy Fawcett, per-

mission to officiate, diocese Northwicks; to be non-stipendiary Minister to the Rural Dean of Holt, same diocese.

The Rev Patrick Foreman, Rector,

Haveringham, Hainford and Stratton Strawless; to be also Rural Dean of Ingworth (Northwicks).

The Rev Raymond Gibson, Vicar,

Frederick, W. Wickhampton, Halvergate, Tunstall, Brighton W. Mouth; to be also Priest-in-charge, Lymington and Redham (Northwicks).

The Rev Andrew Greany, Vicar,

Hessle (York); to be the incumbent, Cambridge, St Mary the Less (York).

The Rev John Handley, Priest-in-

charge, East W. West Harling and Broomfield; to be Priest-in-charge, Lymington and Redham (Northwicks).

The Rev Michael Houghton, Vicar,

Falkenstein, St Peter; to be also Honorary Canon of St Helena and Commissary for the Bishop of St Helena.

The Rev Peter Huckle, Curate,

Great Yarmouth Team Ministry; to be Team Vicar, Great Yarmouth Team Ministry (Northwicks).

The Rev John Illingworth, Rector,

Weston Longville W. Morton-on-the-Hill and Great and Little Wingham; to be also Priest-in-charge, Alderford, Atherbridge and Swanington (Northwicks).

The Rev David Jones, Incumbent,

Luffield, W. Haverhill, and Rural Dean of Eilemmer; to be also Priest-in-charge, Crittins by Eilemmer in plurality, W. Duddleston (Lichfield).

The Rev Neville Kent, Team

Rector, Worle Team Ministry; to be also Priest-in-charge of Buckland Dinham (Bath Wells).

The Rev Robin Lodge, Curate,

Cable W. Blackland (Salisbury); to be Team Vicar, Wellington, and District Team Ministry (Bath Wells).

The Rev Canon Michael McLean,

formerly Residentiary Canon of Norwich Cathedral; to be a Canon Residentiary of Norwich Cathedral (Norwich).

The Rev Barbara Moore, Curate,

to officiate, diocese Chichester; to be also part-time Community Mental Health Chaplain in the Fareham/Gosport area (Portsmouth).

The Rev Anne Netherwood, Deacon

(NSM) Crittins by Eilemmer in plurality; to be Priest-in-charge, Crittins by Eilemmer in plurality, W. Duddleston, and the parish of Welsh Frankton; to be Resident Minister, Crittins by Eilemmer in plurality, W. Duddleston, and the parish of Welsh Frankton (Northwicks).

The Rev Jonathan Roberts, National

Youth Officer, Board of Education, Church House, Westminster; to be Priest-in-charge, Holy Trinity, Washington (Durham).

The Rev Elizabeth Shearlock, to be

full-time Chaplain for the Thane Heath Trust (Canterbury).

The Rev Henry Stillman, Curate-in-

charge, Forest Gate, All Saints (Chesham).

The Rev John Simpson, Curate,

Hopton W. Canon; to be Priest-in-charge, Hopton W. Canon (Northwicks).

Anniversaries

1962: Joe Louis, the "Brown

Bomber", world heavyweight boxing champion 1937-48, Las Vegas, 1981; Alan Stewart Faxon, writer, Durban, 1982; John George Lambton, 1st Earl of Durham, statesman, London, 1922; Alexander Ostrovsky, dramatist, Moscow, 1823.

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COLONEL SIR THOMAS BUTLER

were—A transparency,
mounted with the crown; the
of its ribs on each side; in the
under "a wreath of laurel
olive, and the motto, "May she
be Lily be for ever united."
Lily XVIII. In the windows on
names of "Wellington" and

use was superb. The whole
was covered with light. The
was breathed with continued
flame-coloured lamps. On the
placed in large characters the
Ussuria, Prussia, Russia, and
the motto, "Vive
The Artist's grammar ought
to be consulted . . .
mann's) in the Strand, exhibited
of the Corsicans attacked by
places his foot on his breast, and
hand an hour-glass at which he
of the other a spear. The fallen
cossacks death to arrest the fatal
each turn are broken heads, torn
in the hand grasps the
mines of a sword. On the walls of
Cossacks and other Russians,
Americans, &c. who are raising the
on Bourbon

Nato jets bomb Serbs again

Nato jets bombed Bosnian Serb forces for the second day in succession yesterday as Serb gunners renewed their attack on the Muslim enclave of Gorazde. A tank and two personnel carriers were destroyed, halting an armoured advance on the town, after the British UN commander called for air support. Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose had turned to Nato again as the Serbs ignored Sunday's air strikes and repeated Unprofor warnings and carried on pounding the town with artillery and tank shells. Pages 1, 14, 18, 19

Tories in peril of third place

The Tory Party may come third, with fewer seats than the Liberal Democrats, after the June 9 elections for the European Parliament, the most critical test of the Major leadership since the general election. Pages 1, 4, 18, 19

Anger at Zhirinovskiy

Paris came under pressure to expel Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, who is visiting France, after he spat, shouted abuse and threw gravel at Jewish students protesting in Strasbourg. Page 1

Video penalties

Michael Howard is to unveil harsh new penalties on shops that distribute unsuitable videos to children. Pages 1, 19

Breast cancer

Deaths of breast cancer patients after surgery are six times higher for some surgeons than others, but the reasons are not being investigated. Pages 1, 17

Howard backs down

Michael Howard backed down over a key part of his proposal to modify a suspect's right to silence after opposition from the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, and other senior judges. Page 2

Gay protest

The UN Human Rights Committee has ruled that Tasmania's criminal laws on homosexuality violate international human rights agreements that Australia has signed. Page 14

Hasty evacuation

Rebel forces were closing in on Kigali, the Rwandan capital, as Belgium speeded the rescue of its 1,500 citizens from the anarchic African republic. Page 15

£2m house sold in nine hours

A £2 million mansion in Totteridge, north London, is heading for the record books after being sold in only nine hours. El Remo, once owned by Mickie Most, the record producer, became the ultimate impulse buy when a British businessman bought it for his wife. He saw the house at 9am and contracts were exchanged at 6pm. Page 5

Greek warning

British firms and educational institutions in Greece have been warned to increase their security after a failed attempt by a left-wing terrorist group to attack HMS Ark Royal. Page 10

Melanoma vaccine

Scientists have developed a vaccine that has proved to be successful against melanoma, the most aggressive and deadliest form of skin cancer. Page 9

Ukraine attack

Ukrainian special forces stormed a Russian naval installation in the Black Sea port of Odessa at the weekend, beating up and arresting several Russian sailors, including three senior officers. Page 10

Tesco in Calais

The cross-Channel supermarket drinks war intensified when Tesco confirmed it would follow the Sainsbury lead by opening a store in Calais. Page 7

Empty homes

The number of homes standing empty has almost doubled over the past ten years, to about 860,000, according to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Page 5

Boom and bust

Shanghai is in the middle of a great boom, but it cannot house any more of the thousands of people pouring in from the countryside. Page 15



A US Marine Corps FA18 on dawn patrol over Bosnia. Two of the fighters destroyed a Serb tank yesterday. Pages 1, 14

Lancaster: An administrative receiver has blamed German banks for forcing Lancaster Boss, the last British-owned lift truck manufacturer, into administration. Page 23

Economy: Consumers borrowed slightly more in February than in January, but there is evidence that demand for credit slowed along with retail sales in the run-up to the tax increases. Page 23

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 28.6 points to close at 3149.4. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 80.0 to 79.7 after a fall from \$1.4745 to \$1.4736 and from DM2.5261 to DM2.5172. Page 26

Football: Terry Venables, the England coach, named eight uncapped players in a squad of 24 for next week's two-day training session at Bisham Abbey. Page 44

Rugby union: The United States, winners three years ago of the women's World Cup, crushed Sweden 111-0 at Galashiels, while England, joint favourites for the title, beat Russia 66-0. Page 44

Motor racing: Nigel Mansell, the IndyCar champion, finished third in a race at the Phoenix Oval on Sunday then claimed he had never been so scared in his racing career. Page 42

Pure poetry: In the 1970s it was Studio 54, in the 1980s it was health clubs. Now, it's bookshops. Kate Muir on the best place to meet people in New York. Page 16

Long-term impact: Whiplash injuries can cause many problems — some of which may emerge long after the accident. Aileen Ballantyne reports. Page 17

Quiet words: "Juries acquit guilty people because they do not trust the police." Sir David Napley on why he is unhappy with changes in the right to silence. Page 33

Found art: If Rose Garrard had not become fascinated by Harry Bates's *Pandora* a decade ago, probably it would be still lurking in the Tate Gallery's basement store. Page 37

Theatrical triumph: David Calder establishes himself in the front rank of British actors with a powerful portrayal of Shylock in the RSC's new production of *The Merchant of Venice*. Page 38

Dancing with ghosts: The choreographer Bill T. Jones has some ghosts to exorcise before he brings his company back to London after eight years. Page 39

THE TIMES TOMORROW

From Oedipus to Olivier

Broadway does it with glitz, London does it with taste and the Greeks have been doing it for 2,500 years. Benedict Nightingale on theatre awards

Ballerina turns to the scrum

What happens when you grow too big to be a ballerina? You play rugby, where your champion helps in the lineout. Sally Jones meets a member of the England women's rugby team

Video nasties and nasty kids

Do video nasties create nasty children? Sue Cook discusses the effects of screen violence

A nineteenth birthday tribute to Sir John Gielgud. *Omnibus* (BBC1, 10pm; Scotland Thursday, 11.25pm) Page 43

April fools

The West has come perilously close to losing the momentum for peace in Bosnia. Page 19

Euro-battleground

The danger for the Conservatives is that at the next general election the opposition parties may mount a raid on the Tories' most reliable source of support. Page 19

Sermon handicap

Length should be part of the educational function of sermons. They are reminders that we were not sent into this world entirely for our pleasure. Page 19

BERNARD LEVIN

At least 90 per cent of new plays are rubbish without a redeeming feature, and everyone in and around the theatre knows that to be true. Page 18

TONY TRAVERS

The perceived failure of the Government to take London's needs seriously, while providing provincial cities, Scotland and Wales with resources for new sports arenas, concert halls, opera houses and Olympic bids is about to be put to the electoral test. Page 18

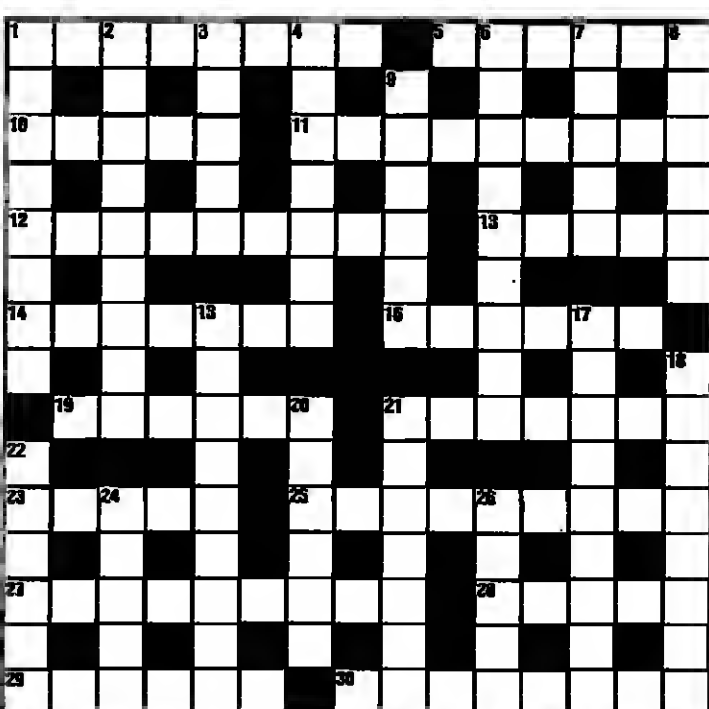
Lionel Cosin, surgeon: Colonel Sir Thomas Butler, Governor of the Tower of London; Ianis Macbeth, former labour editor of *The Times*; Miki Iveria, actress. Page 21

A welcome for more sport in schools. Page 19

The reformist spirit embodied by Mr Hosokawa will necessarily become a touchstone for his would-be successors.

— *The Wall Street Journal*
Wherever [health] reform bills lurk, so do powerful vested interests, from doctors and insurance agents to lawyers, small-business owners and [top] companies... lobbying is subtle, nearly invisible and potentially pernicious.
— *The New York Times*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,514



- ACROSS**
- Exhausted rugby player, a stand-off (8).
 - Royal house accepted in the beginning (6).
 - Clerk producing rocket-motor (5).
 - One of two cards in the pack would give you pontoon (9).
 - Deity accepting the ultimate in homage, a hymn of praise (5).
 - Do I finish the game without it? (7).
 - By the sound of it, put one's finger on fish (6).
 - Take up residence in N. Yorks. town (6).
 - It's goodbye to comfort as one gets old (7).
 - Walter's dad (5).
 - Cornered on the wagon (2,3,4).
- DOWN**
- Union subverted, violated (8).
 - One wanting to live in solitude has to fix it with the utmost haste (9).
 - Wood used in popular chairs (5).
 - In the circumstances, show disapproval of galley (7).
 - Go on disrupting peace talk (4,5).
 - A woman, for example, turning into a gnome (5).
 - Theft is infections (6).
 - Invent toiletries (4,2).
 - Cattle are caught up in dispute (9).
 - Motor race supplies colour (9).
 - Prisoner put on trial for offence against the court (8).
 - Give rise to girl who's stripped (6).
 - Gem that catches the light at night (4,3).
 - Peg, try wearing pink (6).
 - Stock of cards that are left over — never take the first ones you see (5).
 - Former physical education student put out of school (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,513

CLIMB STARTLING
HNE
AMENDMENT ACTION
M A I R T H R
FELINE CONCRETE
E A N H M
RELEGATION PART
E I A M G I A
DEBT UNDERLINGS
R S Y R O T
SEASCAPE CREASE
T R A R S I L L
ODIUM IMPROVISE
I A B G I U S
CONTINUED SLED

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Region	Forecast
Greater London	701
East of London	702
West of London	703
North London	704
South London	705
West Midlands	706
East Midlands	707
North Midlands	708
South Midlands	709
West of England	710
East of England	711
North of England	712
South of England	713
West of Scotland	714
East of Scotland	715
North of Scotland	716
South of Scotland	717
West of Ireland	718
East of Ireland	719
North of Ireland	720
South of Ireland	721
West of Wales	722
East of Wales	723
North of Wales	724
South of Wales	725
West of Northern Ireland	726
East of Northern Ireland	727
North of Northern Ireland	728
South of Northern Ireland	729

Weathercell is charged at 30p per minute (cheap rate) and 40p per minute at all other times.

For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0330 401 followed by the appropriate code.

Region	Forecast
Greater London	701
East of London	702
West of London	703
North London	704
South London	705
West Midlands	706
East Midlands	707
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North of England	712
South of England	713
West of Scotland	714
East of Scotland	715
North of Scotland	716
South of Scotland	717
West of Ireland	718
East of Ireland	719
North of Ireland	720
South of Ireland	721
West of Wales	722
East of Wales	723
North of Wales	724
South of Wales	725
West of Northern Ireland	726
East of Northern Ireland	727
North of Northern Ireland	728
South of Northern Ireland	729

Yesterday's highest day temp: Birmmham, 13°C (55°F); lowest day temp: Birmmham, 7°C (45°F); highest night temp: Birmmham, 11°C (52°F); lowest night temp: Birmmham, 4°C (39°F).

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West of Wales	722
East of Wales	723
North of Wales	724
South of Wales	725
West of Northern Ireland	726
East of Northern Ireland	727
North of Northern Ireland	728
South of Northern Ireland	729

□ General: Scotland and Northern Ireland will have a lot of bright weather but with scattered showers. Later in the day, cloud will increase in the extreme north with a little light rain.

Cloud and rain over much of Wales and northern England will move southeast slowly during the day to reach the extreme southeast by evening.

□ London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, Channel Isles: dry and bright. Cloudy later with rain by evening. Wind mainly northerly, light. Max 13C (55F).

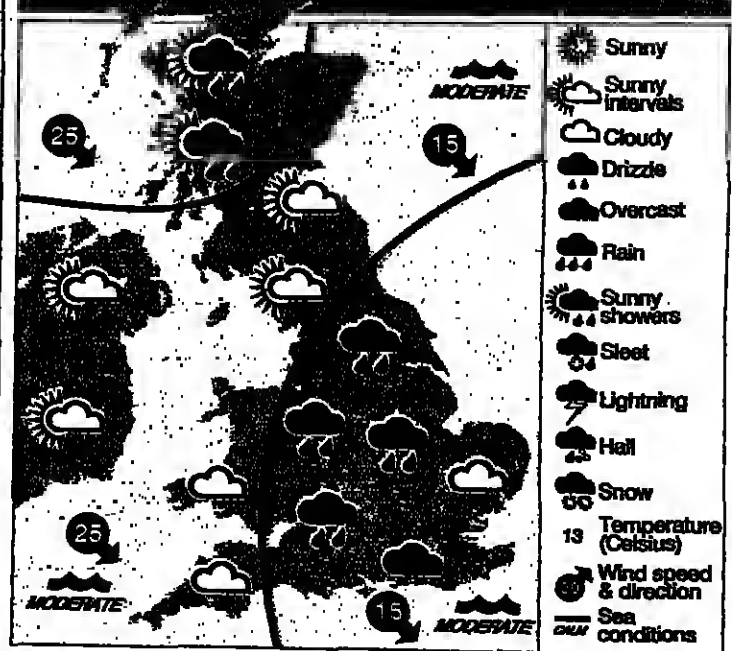
□ E England, W Midlands, S W England, Central N England: cloudy with outbreaks of mainly light rain. Wind mainly northwest.

erly, light. Max 12C (54F).
□ S Wales, N Wales, N W England, Lake District, Isle of Man, N E England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee: cloudy with rain at times. Brighter and mainly dry later. Wind, northwest light, occasionally moderate. Max 12C (54F).

□ Aberdeen, S W Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, N E Scotland, Argyll, N W Scotland, N Ireland: bright or sunny periods and scattered showers clearing out later. Wind west or northwest, light to moderate. Max 10C (50F).

□ Orkney, Shetland: bright with a few showers becoming cloudy later. Perhaps a little light rain later. Wind mainly westerly, moderate. Max 8C (46F).

□ Outlook: rain at first in the extreme southeast slowly moving away. All areas will then be mostly dry and bright with a few coastal showers.



Changes to the chart below from noon: High R will drift slowly northeast and maintain its central pressure, as Low A moves rapidly northeast. Low K will be almost stationary, deepening slightly as Low W drifts east and fills.



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Greater London	701
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South of Wales	725
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South of Northern Ireland	729

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LAW 33-35

Right to silence: why Parliament has got it wrong

ARTS 37-39

How Pandora's box came to rest in the arms of Adam

SPORT 40-44

Venables spreads his net far and wide for England

MR CLUTCH DRIVES INTO EUROPE
Page 29

THE TIMES

TUESDAY APRIL 12 1994

Lancer Boss 'forced under'

Receiver says German banks pulled the plug

By ROSS TIEMAN AND COLIN NARBROUGH

GERMAN banks have been blamed by an administrative receiver for forcing Lancer Boss, the last British-owned fork lift truck manufacturer, into administration.

Alan Griffiths, the head of insolvency at Grant Thornton, said bankers to Steinbock Boss, Lancer's German subsidiary, pulled the plug after British directors refused to approve its sale to a major German manufacturer.

But Bayerische Hypothek Bank, leader of a consortium of German creditor banks said the banks had no alternative than to seek bankruptcy proceedings after Lancer Boss failed to meet a noon deadline last Friday to find more capital for the German company.

The German banks' move followed the collapse of talks between Lancer Boss and Jungheinrich, the German company Mr Griffiths was referring to, which said it has long been offering to take over part or all of the Lancer Boss group. Talks were broken off in Hamburg last Wednesday.

Mr Griffiths said any sale of the German arm alone would have undermined the viability of the British plant in Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, and lowered the amount which could be realised for creditors to the business.

Hans-Peter Schmohl, Jungheinrich's technical director yesterday addressed workers at the Steinbock Boss plant at Moosburg, near Munich, assuring them that his company wanted the bankrupt German firm to be kept intact.

Mr Griffiths, who was appointed on Friday afternoon, said he had already been approached by potential buyers including two substantial British firms that wanted to buy the entire business and had the funds to do so.

Peter Fletcher, a senior insolvency partner from Grant Thornton, was last night flying to Munich to seek talks with the German lawyer appointed as receiver to Lancer's German arm.

Mr Griffiths said yesterday afternoon that he had been unable to contact the lawyer despite repeated efforts. Mr Griffiths said: "Whilst I am confident of being able to achieve the sale of the combined UK and German operations, the intentions of the German administrator are not yet clear, and this could have a major impact."

He added: "This is an extremely unusual situation. It is annoying for me because I would prefer to have control of the whole business to be able to make decisions."

The German banking consortium is believed to have been in direct contact with National Westminster Bank, one of the main banks to Lancer Boss in Britain, before talking the decision to initiate bankruptcy proceedings at Steinbock Boss.

Lancer Boss's British and German plants are completely integrated, Mr Griffiths said, with each supplying compo-

nents to the other and producing vehicles in a complementary range. The Munich plant has focused on building electric trucks, while Leighton Buzzard has concentrated on making diesel and gas-powered vehicles.

Lancer Boss has annual sales of £160 million, of which £90 million is generated in Britain, and commands 12 per cent of the world market. The highly-efficient UK plant, which employs 600 workers, also builds trucks for Komatsu, of Japan, and Rolatruck, of Sweden. The administrators were expected to meet Komatsu bosses yesterday evening to discuss whether production of Komatsu trucks can be maintained at the present level of up to 120 a month.

The administrators yesterday declared 19 redundancies among head office and "peripheral" staff. However, production was quickly resumed after workers had been briefed on the situation.

Union leaders said the British plant had been returned to profitability after restructuring last year and they too were confident a buyer would be found for the business. In addition to the workers at its Leighton Buzzard plant, Lancer has 170 employees at 15 sales depots across Britain.

Mr Griffiths said the chairman of Lancer Boss, Sir Neville Bowman-Shaw, and his brother Trevor, the co-owner of the company, had apparently been aware of discussions by the German banks about a possible sale. However, they understood the talks were exploring a possible purchase of the whole business, he said.

On Friday, however, they were asked to approve a sale of the Munich business alone.



Griffiths unhappy

Pennington, page 25



Lancer Boss staff, yesterday, returned to work at the Leighton Buzzard fork-lift plant

Credit at a record £5bn

By JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

CONSUMERS borrowed slightly more in February than in January, but there is evidence that demand for credit slowed down along with retail sales in the run-up to the tax increases.

Net new credit rose to £277 million from £235 million in January, according to the Central Statistical Office. The rise was due to increased borrowing from finance houses, reflecting cheap credit deals offered by motor manufacturers and many retailers.

Borrowing on bank credit cards was unchanged. CSD consumer credit figures exclude personal loans from banks and building societies and all mortgage lending.

Although credit granted in February rose to a monthly record of £5.01 billion, from £4.74 billion in January, weak net new credit figures show that consumers may be using credit cards as a means of payment, but are not building up debts. This was the message of the recent report from The Financial Research Survey and NOP, which showed that in 1993 61 per cent of credit card holders paid bills in full each month, compared with 53 per cent in 1989.

Simon Briscoe, chief economist at S.G. Warburg, said that growth in credit demand has decelerated from late last year. In the three months to February, net lending totalled £937 million, down from the £1.08 billion in the three months to November. In the September to December period, monthly credit demand averaged £375 million.

The only area of strong credit demand is cars. InfoLink, the credit information organisation, said that February saw a 16.7 per cent jump in requests for new car loans, against a year ago.

Pennington, page 25

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS TODAY

THIRSTY



David Chapman is trying to save his English vineyard business from the clutches of a French-owned bank.
Page 24

SATED

Imry has returned to profit under Barclays ownership, but is unlikely to be sold or floated immediately.
Page 28

WELL-OILED



Spending on promotions and marketing helped Castrol overcome severe depression.
Page 25, Tempos 27

HUNGRY

Alpha Airports, the flight catering group, is looking to expand in America and the Pacific Rim.
Page 26

Brown & Jackson thrown a lifeline

By COLIN CAMPBELL

A FINANCIAL lifeline has been given to Brown & Jackson, the loss-making Pound-stretcher discount chain, by Vera and Gerald Weisfeld, who made £50 million when they sold the rival What Everyone Wants chain in 1990.

They are willing to inject £6 million into B&J via nil coupon convertible loan notes, become non-executive directors and enter into a minimum three-year consultancy agreement, for which they will each be paid £500 a day, subject to a maximum annual payment of £25,000. The plan would save 4,000 jobs throughout the biggest chain of discount stores.

Mr Weisfeld said the consultancy fee was, in itself, not important, and might well go to charity, and that he and his wife would devote whatever time and energy was needed.

He "came across" B&J about 12 days ago and now owns 3 million shares. He has options to subscribe for a further 298.8 million at 7.5p, which will give them 41.46 per cent of B&J.

He said: "I've been in the dis-

counting business all my life. I have lived through and survived three recessions. I have some ideas, and we look forward to getting back into business."

Ian Gray, B&J's chief executive, said the Weisfeld proposals represent "the only option currently available" that meets the request from the group's bankers to secure B&J's long-term future. He was delighted to have secured their offer of financial support.

Fresh talks with group bankers about a revised working capital facility are under way. B&J reported losses of £12 million last year and said it could have to close down if bankers continued to decline to advance £14 million of working capital.

Mr Gray said yesterday that sales in the 13 weeks to April 2 were 4 per cent above last year, and like-for-like sales were 1 per cent higher.

B&J shares rose from 3p to 4½p.

Tempos, page 27

Gatt treaty will cut 38% from tariffs

IMPORT duties on industrial goods will be cut by an average 38 per cent by the advanced economies under the world trade agreement to be signed at the end of this week in Marrakech, Morocco, according to Peter Sutherland, director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Colin Narbrough writes).

On the eve of the four-day Gatt conference, to be attended by ministers from more than 120 countries, Mr Sutherland said the Uruguay Round treaty would also double the number of products entering the industrialised countries tariff-free from the developing world.

Mr Sutherland renewed a call to the major economies to ratify the Uruguay Round pact by the end of this year amid growing doubts that President Clinton may be unable to get the treaty through Congress by December.

Morocco bound, page 27

Rentokil chief nets £2.8m paper profit

By MARTIN FLANAGAN AND PATRICIA TEHAN

CLIVE Thompson, the chief executive of Rentokil who earned £658,000 last year, made a nominal profit of £2.83 million on the exercise of share options awarded as part of his remuneration package.

Mr Thompson exercised options over 1.65 million shares at a price of 45.78p a share, against the then price of 217p in the stock market. He has retained the shares and increased his investment in the company, rather than selling.

Mr Thompson's holding in Rentokil is 2.3 million shares, worth £6.5 million at yesterday's price of 231p. He had options over a further 2.1 million shares at an average exercise price of 86.47p on December 31, 1993. Less than two weeks ago, he was granted an additional 496,987 share options.



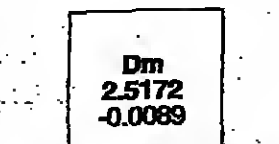


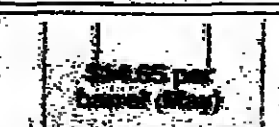
Meanwhile, Owners Abroad, the travel company that had a troubled 1993, including a hostile takeover bid, a Takeover Panel probe and changed senior management, revealed it had granted

Francis Baron, the new chief executive who joined last November, 961,373 share options at 116.5p. Malcolm Heald, the finance director who joined in January, has been granted 214,592 options at 116.5p.

The options are exercisable after five years and only in full if they outperform the FT-SE by 100 per cent in that time.

Sir William Purves, chairman of HSBC Holdings, Midland Bank's parent, was awarded an expatriate pay scheme last year, that enabled him to receive total pay and benefits of £1.06 million, up by £16,000 on the previous year.

The package was made up of a salary and other emoluments increase from £890,000 to £910,000, fees of £15,000, a £40,000 discretionary bonus, and £96,000 in pension contributions. Sir William moved over to London in October, losing his expatriate benefits, which included having tax paid by the company, a company flat and flights to the UK. He will now be liable for UK taxation.

STOCK MARKET		THE POUND		GOLD
 FT-SE 100 3149.4 +28.6	 DOW JONES 3698.05 +23.79	 Dm 2.5172 -0.0089	 US \$ 1.4736 -0.0009	
Midday trading figure				BRENT CRUDE
				
				6pm

LONDON CLOSING PRICES

MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 26, SHARE PRICES PAGE 31

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Crenshaw shows putting touch worthy of master

The free-trade bandwagon is finally Morocco-bound

Colin Narbrough examines some of the little local difficulties that have been put aside in order to allow the new Gatt treaty to be signed

The demise last week of Cocom, the shadowy Cold War organisation intended to prevent the communist bloc from obtaining the West's advanced technology, was the latest acknowledgment of the global shift towards a more open world trading system to be fêted this week by more than 120 countries in the Moroccan city of Marrakech.

The discreet termination of Cocom at talks in a castle near the Dutch capital contrasts with the high-profile ministerial jamboree of the signatory nations behind the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) in a fundamental way. In future, the Western economies behind Cocom will give national governments the ultimate freedom to decide what may be exported.

The Final Act of the seven-year Uruguay Round of the Gatt is, in depth and breadth, an unprecedented commitment to a more liberal, non-discriminatory trading order and to a World Trade Organisation (WTO), armed with the necessary teeth, to ensure that the multilateral rules are obeyed.

Peter Sutherland, the outspoken Gatt director-general, has fought hard since the agreement to the Final Act in December to focus attention on the profound changes taking place in the international economic landscape. And like Arthur Dunkel, his predecessor who retired last year, he has underlined the crucial role of the developing world in bringing about a successful conclusion to the Gatt round.

Little more than a decade ago, the cosy, largely homogenous group of economies of Western Europe and North America were able to provide living standards for around a billion people that were far higher than anywhere else. But the political and economic revolution witnessed over the past decade has made that world order look distinctly passé. The exclusive club of North Americans and Western Europeans has been widened with the development of the global market-place. Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe are increasingly winning membership. Some are in a position to become club stewards.

As Gatt reported last week, growth in world trade slowed to 2.5 per cent in volume terms last year, after notching up 4.5 per cent in 1992. But it highlighted that Asia and Latin America were among the fastest growing regions in trade and output. With the extension of Gatt liberalisation to trade in services in the agreement about to be signed, it is important to note that, while world merchandise trade dropped 2 per cent in value terms to \$3,600 billion last year (in part reflecting the dollar's appreciation against European currencies), the trade in services, in excess of \$1,000 billion, maintained positive growth.

Forecasts of an annual \$200-300 billion boost to world trade from implementation of the Uruguay Round treaty have yet to be proven, but few doubt that the benefit to the world economy will be huge, albeit with plenty of local pain. With many countries freeing up trade ahead of the negotiated timetable, Gatt expects world trade growth to pick up to 5 per cent this year, given a mild recovery in Western Europe and Japan.

Marrakech, with its four-hour signing ceremony on Friday, is primarily intended to celebrate the outward



India seeks to defend the use of child labour in its carpet industry

harmony achieved by Gatt members. Yet speeches to the conference are certain to reveal the weeping sores of bilateral and regional disputes bandaged over to ensure overall accord.

John Major, looking to developments in the economy, British and global, to restore his political fortunes, has stressed the importance the Government has attached to the Gatt round. But, apart from Sir James Goldsmith, the financier, one of the few, vocal British critics of the Uruguay Round, Mr Major has faced little domestic protest about the trade agreement. In continental Europe, most prominently in France, the heavily subsidised farming community has engaged in mass protests. America's farm and industry lobbies continue to agitate, while India has seen bloody riots over Gatt.

Even before the Gatt negotiators crowded their years of effort with agreement, Washington had started to press its demands for the Uruguay Round to ensure workers' rights and environmental standards in the far more liberalised world trading environment it foresaw. Having dropped its objections in December to the establishment of the WTO, America's tone has become shriller in recent weeks over commitment at Marrakech on labour

and green conditions, similar to those it tagged on to the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta) last year.

After the fierce battle last year between America and France over trade in agricultural goods and audiovisual products, there is no little irony in the sudden alliance between Paris and Washington on the issue of workers' rights. That the Clinton and Balladur governments have ended up as bedfellows is not really strange, given their policies to lift employment.

The developing countries have received vigorous support from Mr Sutherland in their resistance to the demands that Marrakech formally commits the WTO to measures against what is often termed social and environmental "dumping". Freeing up the world economy has to be counterbalanced by respect for minimum standards, according to those countries seeking the commitments. The International Labour Organisation has also given its cautious support to a "social clause" in the Gatt treaty. Partial conclusions of a special report state that in a more global economy "there is a need for some enhanced mechanism to monitor and regulate social protection so as to ensure that globalisation effectively leads to greater social progress and social justice worldwide".

The developing world, most vocally represented by India, has flatly rejected

any move to establish a social dimension to the Uruguay Round, arguing that the poorer nations need to see the real benefits of the concessions they have made to open up their markets before they can move on to social and environmental harmonisation. India, like many developing countries, employs millions of children in industry, particularly in export sectors such as carpets and textiles. Agriculture, too, employs millions of children, many under conditions regarded in the industrialised world as close to slavery. On environmental issues, the developing world is also resisting any attempt by rich countries to impose standards poor economies cannot yet afford.

Perhaps out of sheer expedience, Mr Sutherland has been a powerful advocate for keeping the Marrakech conference focused on the implementation of the Uruguay Round accord. But his conviction to free trade has prompted him to field strong arguments against those governments wishing to add new conditions that could lead to greater protectionism. He argues that the industrialised countries, with their high unemployment, cannot resist the adjustment to free trade with discredited theories of the threat of "pauper labour" impoverishing our societies. Steady, non-inflationary growth, he says, is what is needed to generate high standards of living, which will come from improving productivity and open competition in the global market place.

In a forceful exposition of his views recently, Mr Sutherland said: "There may well be good reasons for pursuing in specific cases the harmonisation of standards internationally, in which case the need for a co-operative, multilateral approach is obvious, but there is no general case to be made that heterogeneity is in and of itself a bad thing." He issued a warning against the dangers of "protectionist capture" inherent in the proposition that free trade will lead to competitive deregulation and standards falling to the lowest common denominator worldwide, requiring trade sanctions to force harmonisation of standards upwards to the rich country norms. Mr Sutherland has been openly critical too of the US decision to revive its "Super-301" trade weapon to try to persuade Japan to take more American goods and services. The pursuit of bilateral deals and managed trade was "misguided and dangerous", Mr Sutherland said.

But America remains the world's largest trading nation, and, as the only real superpower, wants to pursue a multitrack trade policy, US style. Its social and environmental demands will have to be considered formally at some stage, if not at Marrakech. Washington has been widely criticised for signing up to Nafta and agreeing to the Uruguay Round treaty, only to follow up with a unilateral assault on Japan to reduce its \$60 billion trade surplus with America. President Clinton's hands-on approach to the heavily subsidised \$6 billion deal to supply Saudi Arabia with American civil aircraft also suggests that the WTO might not be allowed to dictate terms to Washington, even though that is the basic idea behind the trade body.

Yet, American interests could be well served if it took a long view of world trade as ministers sign the treaty that will guide world trade into the 21st century.

A strong WTO will probably be essential as soon as the world economic map changes. Twisting Japan's arm is no longer as easy as it was. And China, with the potential to be the world's biggest economy, is bent on rejoining the multilateral trading club soon, after a 43-year absence. As Peking has pointed out, the WTO, without China, will be "incomplete and universality will be weakened".

TEMPUS Burmah's greased margins

BURMAH Castrol's board must look wistfully at the performance of its Indian business on the Bombay Stock Exchange, which apparently values Castrol India on multiples of almost 100 times earnings. At the very least, such a rating would make a scrip dividend an even more attractive proposition to the company. Back in the City, Burmah faces a rather more cynical marketplace and one that would appreciate more information on costs. Fundamentally, Burmah is a marketing company that happens to be in the oil business. In that respect it sits uncomfortably in the integrated oil sector and draws comparison with the likes of Shell and BP as well as overseas oil leaders such as Exxon. The comparison has some value in that Burmah competes head-on with the majors in the lubricants market and last year demon-

strated its strength in growing its share of the all-important US market. But profits growth in 1993 was substantially driven by exchange rate gains and the benefit of lower cost feedstocks from cheaper crude oil. Such a world may be with us for 1994 but longer term Burmah needs to prove it can still sell more cans of motor oil and maintain its margins as competition increases.

Burmah's success in carving out its niche in the high margin world of lubricants has not gone unnoticed. With profits from oil exploration and refining under pressure, the majors are seeking a bigger share of lubricants. Burmah will have to raise its high investment in promoting the Castrol brand. Investors may question whether a niche business like Burmah has the strength to warrant a rating as high as the industry leaders.

Brown & Jackson

LIKE two knights in shining armour, Vera and Gerald Weisfeld have appeared on Brown & Jackson's horizon offering the battle-weary management the best bit of financial news it has heard in a long campaign.

With B&J's bankers reluctant to advance money so sorely needed to keep the 230-outlet Poundstretcher chain ticking over, B&J management has been in a bind. The Weisfelds popped up yesterday with the prospect of a £6 million cash injection and, equally important, their retailing expertise.

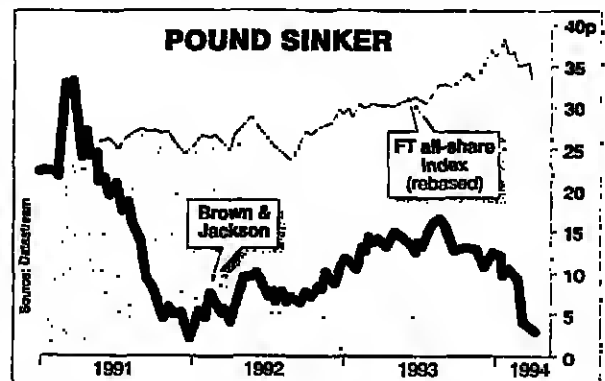
Although the prospect of financial survival is within B&J's grasp — the group was nursing losses of £12 million for the 12 months ended in December, and recently gave a warning that it might have to close down because of the

financial haemorrhage. That only served to compound creditors' jitters.

The Takeover Panel must nod through the Weisfelds' intention to buy 41.5 per cent of B&J without making a general offer to all shareholders. Bankers must extend to B&J the working capital it needs. And shareholders must approve the

Weisfelds' appointments as non-executives, and their consultancy package.

Those hurdles cleared, B&J — which since 1992 has raised £30 million in two rights issues — has to trust that trading conditions improve and that the Weisfeld magic works. Until that is evident, the shares, even at 5½p, remain a gamble.



Development

The latest rumour in West End wine bars is that property developers are returning to London. Overdevelopment to the late 1980s banished this breed to retirement in the South of France or to outlandish ventures in Eastern Europe.

But low interest rates and a steady decline in surplus office space is encouraging developers to dust off their calculators while leading quoted companies, such as Hammerson, are acquiring sites with potential for office redevelopment.

Yields of 7 per cent or less on office properties make development a more attractive prospect than in recent years. With long gills yielding a good percentage point more than property, some would argue that the sector has reverted to historic norms. Rising rents, it is said, will boost capital values, taking over the job that falling interest rates did last year.

Any developers or bankers who find that scenario compelling should examine employment trends before they invest in building offices.

Employment fell in the final quarter of last year, continuing a declining trend of levels of full-time employment in the UK.

Increases are to be found in part-time employment, but part-timers are employed mainly in hotels, catering, retailing and distribution, not industries requiring acres of offices. Employment of clerical staff is falling, a trend for which any banker will be able to supply evidence, and new technology is making vast City banking halls redundant.

Surplus office space in London has fallen sharply and vacancy rates in the West End are near 10 per cent, with only a third of that thought to be new modern office space. But the decline in the vacancy rate is directly related to a fall in the amount of office space under construction.

Developments planned today will take at least three years to be built, leaving the likelihood of shortages in the interim period. But if past experience is any guide, the property world is already planning an office glut for the end of the century.

London and Manchester

London and Manchester may be an insurance company, but its fortunes are closely tied to the property market. A 33 per cent rise in the number of houses sold in 1993 to 6,900 helped the group's 85-strong estate agency chain reduce losses from £3.4 million to £1.2 million.

And while the losses still look painful, L&M reap rewards in other quarters. Estate agency generated £1 million of new annual premium sales, a 17 per cent rise over 1992.

In spite of higher provisions against bad debts, its mortgage business had an operating profit of £846,000 (£3.7 million loss). The slight upturn in house-selling activity helped L&M sell some of its repossessed houses which, with lower interest rates and an easing of unemployment fears, helped the number of mortgage arrears to fall. But until transaction volume returns to the property market, L&M is unlikely to see strong profits growth from its mortgage business.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Unlikely alliance set to storm Broadway

PETER Holmes & Court, son of the late, great Robert, is set to take Broadway by storm. I hear — and he has forged an unlikely alliance to help him win his place in the lights. Peter, 25, whose mother, Janet, controls almost a third of theatre seats in the West End of London through her company, Stoll Moss, has been spending his time in Greenwich Village, New York, where he is producing the \$600,000 rock 'n' roll play *Fallen Angel*, due to open at the Circle in the Square Downtown on April 14. The play — appropriately, some might think — is the brainchild of one Billy Boesky, son of Ivan, who was the undisputed king of Wall Street's arbitrageurs before abruptly crashing to earth in 1986. "I'm creating theatre and producing it," says Peter, who adds that his family has no intention of selling Stoll Moss, while amused that people seem to want to offer large sums of money for it. Boesky senior, who coined the "greed is good" line — immortalized by Michael Douglas in *Wall Street* — was fined \$100 million and banned from the securities industry for life after admitting insider dealing.

Stout work in Vietnam

BRITISH accountants and solicitors sniffing for business in Vietnam will no longer feel quite so isolated — they can

now buy locally brewed Guinness stout. The group has signed a brewing and distribution agreement with BCI Tien Giang, a joint venture between BCI, a French company, and Tien Giang province, guaranteeing ample supplies of Guinness Foreign Extra Stout for thirsty locals. More than £27 million has been invested in the My Tho brewery, 50 miles south of Ho Chi Minh City, ending the need to import Guinness from Malaysia. Just over half a pint of Guinness stout sells for about 70 US cents (48p) in Vietnam — cheap by UK standards, but dear in a country where a US dollar can buy a square meal.

Romantic interlude

HOW romantic. Meredith Taylor, the Tuller & Tokyo oil derivatives broker and daughter of Gordon Taylor, a former senior partner of Sheppard, Robson, the north London architect, is to marry Ronel Lehmann, young Turk of the London PR world. And it took all of Lehmann's persuasive powers to win her hand. He flew her to Paris, positioned her in front of the Eiffel Tower, popped the question, and received the reply: "How on earth did they get planning permission?" "I was observing the architecture," says Taylor. "I didn't say 'yes' until we went to Florence." Lehmann, who represented Oliver Letwin, the NM Rothschild merchant banker, in the tussle with Glenda Jackson for the Hampstead and Highgate constituency, admits: "I'm in love."

Champagne days

THE City is a jungle: a raw, hungry hothouse heated by the octane of money and sex, and none is more adept at prowling its byways than the headhunter. Come again? Such, at any rate, is how Juliette Mead, a former broker with Merrill Lynch and Enskilda Securities, appears to view her old hunting ground. Mead, 33, forsook the dealing room for a career with Philippa Rose and Partners, a London-based headhunting firm, and has



Mead: taking a novel look at the City

pulled her experiences together in a novel, *The Headhunter*, to be published by Simon & Schuster later this month. Four pages into my review copy, I was shocked to discover a reference to the City Diary, in which the heroine Candida Redmayne ("tidily elegant, a clever, hungry, manipulative man-eater") uses an item on a City deflection to further her aims. She then promptly arranges for a bottle of champagne to be sent round to the diarist with a note. Krug will do nicely, thank you.

Being a real brick

SIR Lawrie Barratt, founder of Barratt Developments, the housebuilder, knows his way around a City boardroom, but remains a brickie at heart. It seems, in Yorkshire at the weekend to visit his 5,000-acre Farncliffe estate — bought for £1.5 million in 1981 — he turned up at the local church, St Mary's, for the annual daffodil service, held in homage to the thousands of daffodils that bloom in the area. I gather that the church has a problem with rising damp, and Sir Lawrie has chipped in £1,200 towards fixing it up.

EVER wondered why unit trust managers sometimes call their products "funds" rather than "trusts"? Acronyms may have something to do with it, judging by M&G's launch of the Sterling High Interest Fund (SHIF).

JON ASHWORTH

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Imry back in the black after £24m loss

By Patricia Teahan, Banking Correspondent

IMRY, the property development company owned by Barclays Bank, has returned to profit, achieving a pre-tax figure of £8 million last year, compared with a £24 million loss in 1992.

Barclays has not consolidated the figures because it does not see itself as a long-term owner of Imry. Barclays holds all the ordinary equity and all the £100 million preference shares via its subsidiary, Imry Jersey. Its shareholding was valued at £56 million last year, unchanged from 1992.

According to Imry's annual report, Imry's capital and reserves rose from £71 million to £79 million last year. Despite the return to profit, analysts say Barclays is unlikely to sell Imry or float it on the stock market within the next two years.

The bank took control of Imry in December 1992 amid the property market collapse. It had financed the highly leveraged £14 million acquisition of the company by Marketchef, later renamed Chester. Later, Barclays' exposure was increased to £440 million. The bank made a £240 million provision against its exposure — including a £196 million write-off —

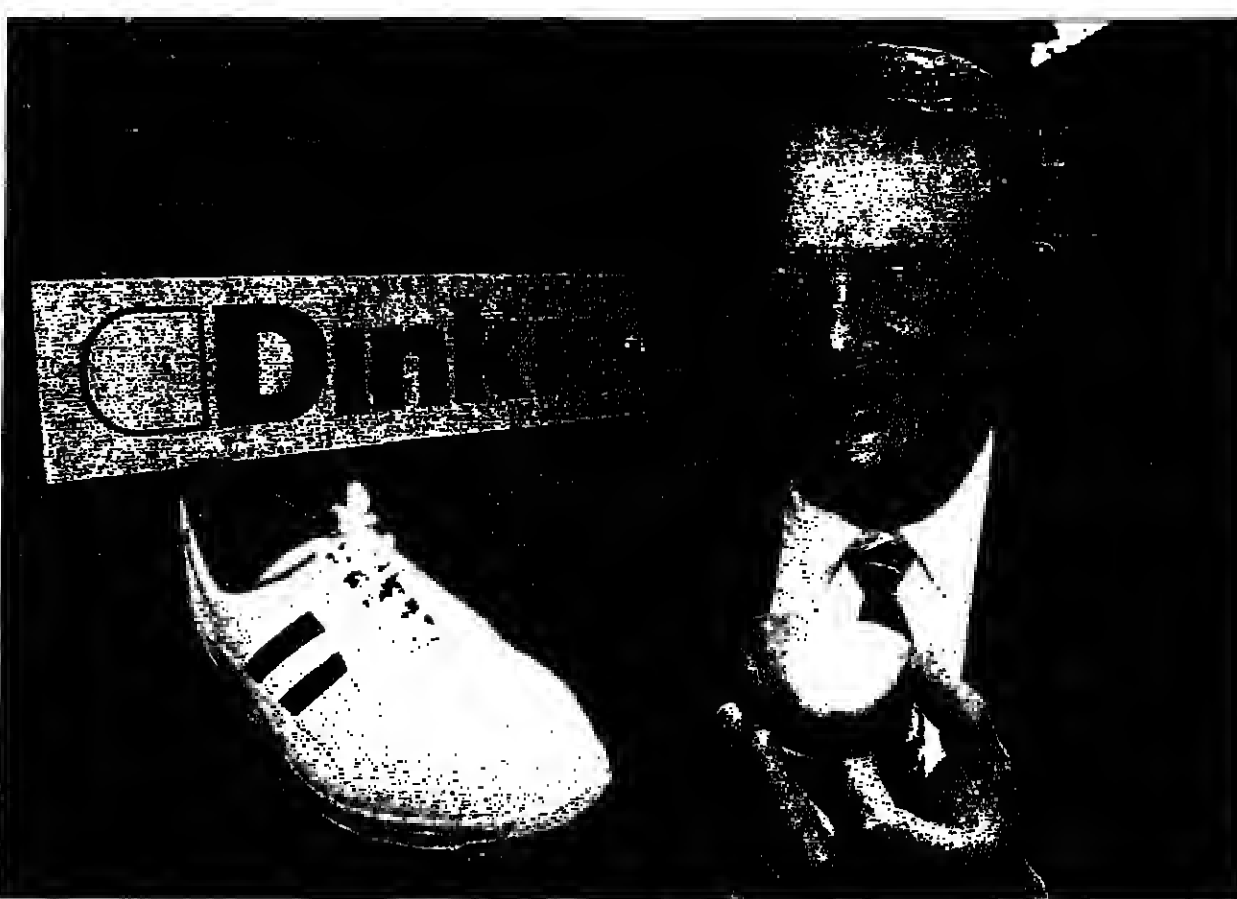
and converted £100 million of debt into redeemable preference shares.

Barclays, under the chairmanship of Sir John Quinlan, ladled funds into the property sector at the height of the late-1980s boom. Much of 1988's £920 million rights issue was channelled into property and construction loans. Come the property crash, Barclays emerged as a principal banker to a host of over-geared enterprises such as Rosehaugh, Moundleigh, Speyhawk, Heron and Olympia & York.

Loans to property and construction companies accounted for 40 per cent of the bank's £1.96 billion UK provisions in 1992. The annual report shows a reduction in the bank's UK property loan book from £5.4 billion in 1991 to £4.3 billion last year. Lending to construction companies has fallen from £3.1 billion to £2.1 billion during the same period.

Provisions against potential UK property bad debts fell to £168 million (£568 million) last year, while construction provisions fell to £104 million (£171 million). Specific provisions fell to £192 million (£267 million) in property and to £70 million (£79 million) in construction.

Exports surge helps Dinkie Heel to get into stride



Chris Ball, managing director, said safety steel toe caps had been the group's most successful product

GWR offer for radio stations

GWR Group, the fast-growing independent radio operator, launched a £35 million recommended offer for Mid Anglia Radio, which operates stations in Cambridgeshire and Norfolk (Philip Pangalos writes).

Based in Bristol, GWR operates various radio stations in the South and, since a takeover of four stations in January, in a large part of the Midlands. GWR also has a 17 per cent stake in Classic FM.

The agreed takeover offer is worth 46p a share, with a full cash alternative of 45p for each Mid Anglia share. GWR has already received acceptances for its offer from holders of 50.46 per cent of Mid Anglia's shares. GWR said the acquisition represents "an excellent opportunity."

Lloyd's may transfer £400m to Newco

By Sarah Bagnall, Insurance Correspondent

LLOYD'S of London is considering using the £400 million it set aside for its failed settlement offer to bolster the reserves of a new reinsurance company created to take over names "old-year" liabilities.

The loss-making insurance market is in the process of setting up Newco, a reinsurance company into which names can transfer their liabilities for insurance policies written in 1993 and prior years.

Names will have to pay to transfer their debts to Newco, but the amount will vary according to the scale of funds that various syndicates are already holding to meet such debts. Some syndicates are well reserved, minimising the cost to names, while other

A 38 per cent surge in exports helped to treble pre-tax profits at Dinkie Heel, the shoe components group famous for supplying steel toe caps for Dr Marten boots (Martin Flanagan writes).

It prompted a 15 per cent jump in the share price yesterday from 40p to 46p. Exports now account for a little under a third of total sales, said the group, which in 1993 made profits of £649,000, compared with £201,000 in the previous year.

Dinkie, whose managing director is Chris Ball, said safety steel toe caps had been the group's most successful product.

The company has bought the freehold of its premises in Manchester for £122,000 — saving £35,000 a year in rent. First-quarter trading in 1994 had been encouraging, said directors.

In 1993, earnings per share lifted to 3.84p compared with 1.31p last time, and the total dividend is 1.4p, against 0.95p, via a 0.9p final.

Bundaberg makes final sugar takeover offer

TATE & Lyle's Australian subsidiary, Bundaberg Sugar, has again increased its takeover bid for South Johnstone Mill. Bundaberg's latest offer is worth A\$14 (£6.70) each for the shares in the north Queensland sugar miller, up from its second offer of A\$12.25 and its initial bid of A\$9.40 in October. The company said the new offer was final and urged South Johnstone shareholders to vote to terminate a ceiling on individual shareholdings at a meeting on April 15. The offer cannot proceed unless the ceiling of 3.2 per cent of the 3.9 million shares on issue is voted out.

Bundaberg made no mention of the linked takeover offer for Tully Sugar, another unlisted public company mainly owned by local cane growers in the same area of Queensland. The boards of both companies have urged shareholders to reject the offers.

Wakebourne plans cut

WAKEBOURNE, the computer-support company that emerged from the troubled Maddox Group last year, is proposing a capital reduction to eliminate the deficit on reserves and a share consolidation. The proposals will be put to shareholders on May 10. Losses in 1993 were £18.6 million before tax (£453,000 profit), due largely to the write-off of the company's investment in Lanek Electronics, a subsidiary. Losses per share were 3.6p, against earnings of 0.1p. There was no dividend. The shares fell 1p to 24p.

Hays to buy Rockall

HAYS, the business services group, has conditionally agreed to acquire Rockall Scotia Resources for £20 million. Rockall is a records storage and data management company mainly servicing the oil exploration sector with clients that include Shell, BP, Conoco, and Esso. In 1993, the company had a turnover of £15.4 million and pre-tax profits of £2.1 million. It has six storage centres in Britain, wholly owned subsidiaries in America and Norway, a part-owned subsidiary in The Netherlands and a joint venture in Germany.

Greenacre advances

GREENACRE Group, the nursing homes operator, reported a 25 per cent advance in full-year profits. Organic growth, improved margins and 168 more beds in operation at the 12 homes helped pre-tax profits climb to £1.7 million in the year to January 31, from £1.36 million. Turnover, boosted by acquisition, grew 54 per cent to £7.44 million. The final dividend is raised 20 per cent to 0.18p (0.15p), giving an improved total of 0.33p (0.28p) for the year. The USM-quoted shares were unchanged at 14p.

Boom year for Rathbone

RATHBONE Brothers, the quoted private banking and asset management group, announced profits up 29 per cent in 1993, as it also disclosed it now manages £1 billion on a discretionary basis for 6,000 private clients. Oliver Stanley, chairman, said banking, trustee and financial advisory services contributed valuably to the business. In 1993, group pre-tax profits rose 29 per cent to £5.25 million (£4.1 million), with earnings per share of 18.5p (16.07p). A final dividend of 5.5p gives a total of 7.5p against 6p in 1992.

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Derek Harris examines the latest franchising trend and looks at one of the biggest players

Taking a bite at the fast food business

MCDONALD'S, the fast food chain, is using franchising for growth in Britain. Already 87 of its 520 restaurants are operated by franchisees, but this year 45 outlets will be franchised, half as many again as last year.

By the end of the decade, McDonald's is looking to increase franchised outlets to at least 40 per cent of the total chain, and possibly as much as half. It will bring Britain more in line with McDonald's world philosophy because it is the biggest franchisor of all, with 80



per cent of its restaurants around the globe already in the hands of franchisees.

A McDonald's can cost anything between £150,000 and £500,000 depending on the size and location of outlet. Essentially, McDonald's invests in the building shell and the land, while the franchisee pays for all internal equipment and stock.

A budget route is to take a three-year lease at the end of which a franchisee should have made sufficient profit to buy out his or her share of the enterprise. It still means finding initially about £50,000, covering the necessary £10,000 deposit and then meeting an average £40,000 of living and associated expenses during six months of full-time training. There is also an 18-month part-time option for training.

Recently, McDonald's has been targeting key A roads for new sites and has also been eyeing, for expansion, Scotland, Wales and the south coast resorts.

Mr Clutch steps up a gear for sales drive into Europe

JOE Yussuf has nearly 50 franchised outlets in Britain offering a clutch replacement service and while he gears up the rate of domestic openings he is experimentally about to dip a toe into continental waters.

He is an example of a marked trend among the British owners of franchise formats. Now 54 per cent of British franchisors anticipate operating outside the mainland Europe by 1998, according to the latest annual survey by the British Franchise Association. Already 22 per cent have made forays into Europe, from Printaprint in high street printing to PVC Vendo in the vehicle cleaning field. Other examples of British penetration of the Continent by franchisors include retailers such as Burton's, Mothercare and T. S. B. as well as Body Shop, and Skechley, the cleaner.

Mr Yussuf, chairman of the Mr Clutch chain, has been eyeing Europe by 1998, according to the latest annual survey by the British Franchise Association. Already 22 per cent have made forays into Europe, from Printaprint in high street printing to PVC Vendo in the vehicle cleaning field. Other examples of British penetration of the Continent by franchisors include retailers such as Burton's, Mothercare and T. S. B. as well as Body Shop, and Skechley, the cleaner.

It is all part of an expansion plan that could lead to a stock market flotation. He said: "A float in three years might be realistic, but it all depends on economic factors."

The Mr Clutch chain was established 16 years ago when London-based Mr Yussuf was 24 years old. He had already been involved with vehicles, doing car body repairs.

He chose speedy clutch replacement as he thought it demanded more skill than other specialised fast-fitting outlets such as those dealing with exhausts and brakes, which were then finding their feet.

He claims to fit a typical car clutch in 45 minutes, which could take up to two hours in a conventional garage, and at about half the price.

There was another business element to contain costs that he built in: a factory was established in Kent to rebuild clutches to original equipment standards and also produce replacement brake materials. It accounts for 5 per cent of the clutch replacement market.

Recently, a gearbox reconditioning factory at Croydon was added, as the scope of the Mr Clutch operation was expanded.

Mr Yussuf said: "We shall be adding 17 franchises this year and probably another 30 next year. Saturation in the UK is probably about 300." This gives points to the projected move into mainland Europe.

The franchisor and manufacturing operations yielded £750,000 in pre-tax profits last year and this could rise to £2 million in less than four years, he believes. For the benefit to franchisees he points to Hugh Jones, a former RAF pilot, who invested £40,000 in two Mr Clutch centres in Birmingham and after three years sold them for more than £200,000. Now he has another outlet in north London.

The three-day National Franchise Exhibition opens on Friday at London's Olympia



Joe Yussuf, chairman, aims to follow an accelerating trend

Statutory right to interest 'could harm small firms'

By RODNEY HOBSON

TWO more organisations have told the Department of Trade and Industry that a statutory right to interest for late payment could harm rather than help small businesses.

The submissions, which contrast with the view of the Institute of Directors, were sent before the Government's consultation period on the issue closed.

The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants (ACCA) and the Association of British Factors & Discounters (ABFD) both say that a statutory right to interest would legitimise the practice of late payment so that unscrupulous businesses might choose to pay interest to suppliers rather than borrow at higher rates from other sources.

The Confederation of British Industry is also against legislation for a statutory right to interest on overdue debts. The CBI has suggested other action, including Business Link advice centres offering no-charge credit management health checks and a commercial debt ombudsman.

ACCA said: "We seriously question whether the interest element would, for the most part, constitute such a material amount as to motivate companies to go to the trouble and expense of retrieving it via the courts."

The ABFD said that customers might require suppliers to lengthen the contractual payment term.

Ben Allen, ABFD chairman, said: "The evidence from countries in the European Union that have a statutory right to interest demonstrates the ineffectiveness of the measure. British companies record

shorter payment times than many of their competitors in Europe.

"We believe that improving legal procedures for the recovery of debt would be the most effective step that the Government could now take to tackle the late payment problem and would help to redress the present imbalance which we believe exists in favour of debtors."

He said that small businesses would be far more likely than large ones to waive their rights to interest for fear of losing contracts.

The cost of administering a system of charging for late payment might be more than the value of interest claimed, the ABFD said. Since many businesses delay payment to their own suppliers until they are paid by their customers, the effect would be neutral.

If a statutory right to interest were introduced, the rate should be penal, as the present rate of 5 per cent awarded in court judgments "merely offers a cheap form of credit". The ABFD suggests 8 per cent above base rate.

The ABFD marginally favours the introduction of a British Standard on payments. This, it believes, would "encourage a change of culture away from the acceptability of paying late because everyone else does". However, it accepts that the cost of a standard might not be justified.

ACCA feels that a British Standard could not be enforced. It suggests instead that the value-added tax system could be used to control the problem. Late payers should be forced to wait for, or be unable to recover, VAT that they have paid.



business premises. Loans are available for up to 70 per cent of the value of the building at interest rates from 9 per cent for up to seven years. There is a cashback facility to cover legal and valuation costs. Details: 081-949 7976.

A seminar on franchising will be held by Milton Keynes Chamber of Commerce on April 27. Bookings: Candida Brown, 0908 662123.

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High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
500	495	Abn-Amro	495.00	-0.50	-0.1	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

BUSINESS SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
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100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

FINANCE, LAND

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
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100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
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100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

FOODS

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
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100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

HOTELS, CATERERS

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

LONGS (over 15 years)

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

LEISURE

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
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100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
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100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
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MINING

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

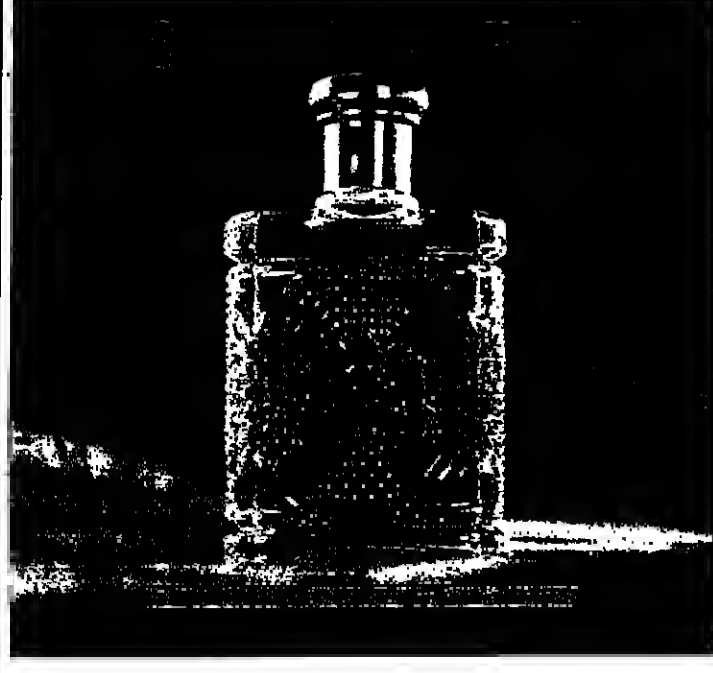
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100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
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100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5

TOBACCOS

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
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100	95	Abn-Amro	95.00	-0.50	-0.5	12.5



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For further information on these or the many other vacancies presently being registered with us, please contact **Lisa Hicks**, **Sally Horroxx** or **Jonathan Brenner** (all lawyers) on 071-377 0510 (071-733 1815 evenings/weekends) or write to us at **Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants**, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 071-247 5174.

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Informal enquiries about the post may be made to **Peter Seago**, tel: 0532 335010.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Office (Academic Section), The University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, tel: 0532 335771 quoting the reference number 41/34. Closing date for applications: 13 May 1994.

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LAW

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A scene from *In the Name of the Father*, the film about the Guildford Four and a miscarriage of justice that led to a Royal Commission

In the name of justice?

To read some newspapers, it would be easy to believe that the maintenance of the so-called right to silence was intended to protect the guilty, rather than, as is the fact, the innocent.

Even so, most responsible citizens would be willing to diminish once again the rules that protect them from injustice if this would diminish the awesome incidence of serious crime. In fact, the proposals of the Criminal Justice Bill will achieve neither the objective of securing more convictions nor confidence in the system.

The Bill deals with this subject in two ways. The first is based on a draft of parliamentary draftsman for the Home Office Criminal Law Revision Committee's eleventh report, which was published in 1992. The report, which was published in 1992, provides that, where silence is given that the accused failed at a defined earlier stage to mention a fact which, in the circumstances existing at the time he could reasonably have been expected to mention, the court may draw such inferences from the failure as appear proper.

This seems to assume that when the judge draws to the attention of the jury, as he would, the existence of such a situation, they are unlikely already to have noticed it, or that, since the judge will no longer tell the jury that they cannot hold his silence against him, this will be decisive and secure more convictions.

Over many years, legislators and the judiciary have continued to believe that if a jury of ordinary people are told to disregard something that they heard, they are both willing and capable of doing so. The situation is even worse in America, whose procedures we seem so often to want to copy, where the judge is constantly telling the jury to

Sir David Napley argues that changes in the right to silence will lead to fewer criminals being convicted

disregard some adverse fact which they have heard because it has been struck from the record. All experience tends to show that the real situation is quite the contrary.

If a jury are intelligent enough to try a serious crime, they are fully alive to the fact that the accused has failed to reveal at the outset a defence which he has subsequently put forward. Moreover, short of being in a coma, it is impossible for them to fail to notice that the accused has failed to give evidence in his defence at the trial.

Juries certainly do not need the judge to draw this to their attention and when he does so, as it is intended that in future he should, it will doubtless still remain in their mind in much the same way as it does today when he tells them to ignore it.

In fact, the reason why juries still frequently acquit, even when it is manifest that the accused failed to reveal a fact or give evidence, is not attributable to the niceties of rules of evidence but to other factors, one of which, unhappily, is that in the current climate they are not prepared to assume that the police are telling the truth, even when they are.

There is no intention to compel a suspect or an accused to reveal any facts either at the outset or at the trial. Thus, it will remain the law that the citizen has an absolute right to remain silent, as indeed the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice recently recommended should be the case. That being so, the drafting, as contained in the present Bill, would on analysis

seem odd in the extreme. How could any court in the future hold, while retaining its credibility, that a failure to reveal a fact was "unreasonable" if by the law of this country there were no duty to disclose it?

What presumably the parliamentary draftsman intended to assert and what the Home Office Criminal Law Revision Committee intended to assert was quite different; namely, that if the jury believe that an innocent person would have wished to disclose a fact which was likely to exonerate him, notwithstanding his right to remain silent, but failed to do so, they might

The reason juries acquit guilty people is because they do not trust the police

draw a proper inference that his later story may not be true. That is totally different from asserting that the law gives him the right to do. However, even with better wording, this change is unlikely to produce more sound convictions, although, as the Royal Commission feared, it may well produce more wrongful ones.

It necessarily remains the view that a solicitor should be present during interrogation to protect a suspect. Often it is wise to say nothing at the outset, until there is time to see whether the story given by the client is corroborated by other evidence. What if the suspect, as very many will, replies: "I have been advised by my solicitor, as the law provides, that I should not answer

questions at this stage"? Will anyone believe that failure to disclose facts was unreasonable at that stage?

It is the process of interrogation which has occasioned most of that which recently has, unhappily, brought the legal system into disrepute. The imperative need is to eliminate those reasons and to restore respect for the courts and the law. It is probably true that no great damage is likely to follow from drawing the jury's attention to something they already know, but no good is likely to emerge from it either.

It is an important and fundamental principle of criminal law that in serious crime the onus of establishing guilt remains throughout on the prosecution. It has always been a much-acclaimed right of an accused to say nothing and to put the prosecution to proof of guilt beyond reasonable doubt. Where will that principle stand if these clauses are enacted? Presumably nowhere. An accused can hardly be expected to say to his interrogators or to the court: "It may well be that I am guilty, but I call upon you to prove it."

The second proposal which the Lord Chief Justice has already commented requires the judge, at the conclusion of the prosecution's case if it is made clear that it is not intended to call the defendant, to call upon the accused to give evidence in his own defence and explain that inferences can be drawn against him if he does not. He still will not be required to give evidence.

Far from enhancing the image of justice, this seems

calculated to cause an intelligent jurymen to lose whatever respect he previously entertained for the judiciary. If there is one thing which it is essential a judge should do in the course of a trial, it is to present himself as utterly impartial.

Indeed, experience also shows that when a judge sides too much with the prosecution, juries revolt and acquit guilty people.

The only effect of placing this proposed duty upon the judge will be to give the impression that he has taken sides with the prosecution and is now assisting them in the conduct of their case and, however much the reality may be otherwise, still further damage will have been done with no identifiable gain.

Parliament needs to rethink these particular clauses of the new Bill.

● The author is a past president of the Law Society and a member of the Home Office Criminal Law Revision Committee.

Judges must learn to talk to media

Joshua Rosenberg has been the BBC's legal correspondent since 1984. His book *The Search for Justice: An Anatomy of the Law* will be published on Thursday (Hodder & Stoughton, £19.99). Like his news reports, it provides information with a clarity, accuracy and relevance that helps lawyers as well as lay people to understand legal developments. This is a considerable achievement; there are increasing pressures on broadcast journalists to concentrate on what is sensational, to emphasise what is speculative, and to give a low priority to analysis of complex but important issues.

Much of Rosenberg's book explains recent developments in our legal system and makes constructive suggestions for necessary reforms to improve access to justice. Of particular interest are those passages in which he discusses and illuminates the sensitive relationship between the judiciary and the media.

The principles by which senior judges decide whether to speak out of court have

varied for each generation. At the beginning of the 19th century, Lord Ellenborough was a member of the Cabinet while serving as the Chief Justice. At the end of the 1930s, Lord Chief Justice Hewart wrote articles for the *New York Times* on topics such as "should a man be hanged" and "licensing law reform". Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice from 1971-80, considered that "the best judge is the man who is least known to the readers of the *Daily Mail*". His successor, Lord Lane, declined to give interviews to journalists.

When Lord Mackay became Lord Chancellor in October 1987, one of his first decisions was to abolish the Kilmuir Rules, adopted in 1955 by Lord Chancellor Kilmuir to prohibit judicial participation in radio and television programmes. On the day of his appointment as Lord Chief Justice in April 1992, Lord Taylor held a press conference. Last October, he appeared on a special edition of BBC's *Question Time* devoted to penal policy.

Legal journalists now have greater access to judges, on and off the record, than ever before. With those opportunities have come responsibilities, because the more worried judges are that what they say and do will not be accurately and fairly reported, the less willing they will be to assist reporters. Some lessons have been learnt on both sides, but misunderstandings and doubts remain, to the disadvantage of the public.

Rosenberg explains what happens when judges fail to assist the media. In January 1988, the Court of Appeal, presided over by Lord Lane, dismissed an appeal against

conviction by the Birmingham Six. The judgment consisted of 160 typed pages which the three appeal judges took it in turns to read out. This occupied most of a day. No copy was made available to journalists. The court made no attempt to summarise its findings. It was, then, hardly surprising that news reporting of the judgment failed to communicate the reasoning of the court. By contrast, when the Court of Appeal (presided over by Lord Justice Lloyd) gave its reasons for allowing a further appeal by the Birmingham Six in 1991, more than one hundred copies of the judgment were made available to the press.

When the Divisional Court held unlawful the decision to close a number of coal mines in 1992, Lord Justice Glidewell provided a summary of the lengthy judgment to help the press and the public to understand the decision. Rosenberg correctly points out the public interest advantages of such a practice and complains that it is rare (though not unique) in this country, by contrast with the practice in the European Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights.

The Scottish criminal courts have been participating in an experiment to give access to television cameras so that the public can see, through the most popular medium, how the law is administered on their behalf. Rosenberg reveals that in 1992 the law lords agreed to their proceedings being recorded and broadcast, but subject to a condition which the BBC would not accept: "If any member of the committee which is filmed objects to any part of the programme depicting the committee, that part will be excised." The BBC should think again. The value of such access, and the opportunity to remove judicial fears about the broadcasting of such proceedings, justify a limited loss of editorial control.

As Rosenberg explains, those who are very learned in the law are sometimes surprisingly naive about the media and about the ability (and willingness) of some journalists to make mischief at the expense of the judiciary. Rosenberg suggests that "the judges should indeed think twice before opening their mouths". He recognises that "there are times when silence is necessary in the wider public interest".

Politicians, industrialists and trade union leaders all receive expert training in communicating with and through the media. The Lord Chancellor's Department should at least send all members of the judiciary a copy of Rosenberg's book.

● The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.



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Heated diners

LORD Justice Steyn, chairman of the Lord Chancellor's advisory committee on legal education and conduct, has sparked off a heated debate with his recent suggestion that there were "strong arguments in principle" in favour of common training for barristers and solicitors.

The latest to enter the fray is Nigel Savage, dean of Nottingham Law School, who has a radical suggestion. He says it is time the Council of Legal Education gave up its monopoly on teaching the Bar vocational course. "It should get its act together. If it cannot cope with all the new students, let us take them on. There is no particular reason why the Bar course has to be taught in

London unless it's to ensure the students eat their dinners and I'm sure we can arrange a reasonable alternative here in the provinces."

First but last

WHEN Shea & Gould, the New York law firm, entered the record books in January as the second largest law firm ever to shut down, its lawyers were scattered to the four winds. Of the 92 partners, 82 have found new homes in more than 42 destinations including law firms, companies and investment banks. One of the few who has not yet announced his final destination is Thomas Constance, the

former managing partner whose suspected negotiations to leave Shea & Gould helped to trigger the vote to dissolve the 250-lawyer firm in the first place.

Caring route

THE avalanche of judicial reviews predicted to follow the implementation of the Community Care Act one year ago has failed to materialise, according to a review of the first year of the Act in the journal *Community Care*. The dissatisfied users of community care — of which there is no shortage — are using complaints procedures but avoiding the courts. The only high-profile

court case remains that of Mark Hazell, whose High Court victory against Avon Council enabled him to choose his own form of residential care.

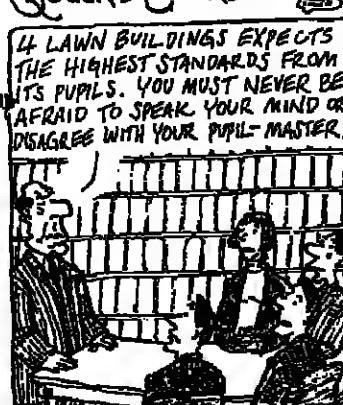
Unequal cases

WITH the upper limit on race discrimination compensation almost certain to disappear as Parliament debates the Race Relations (Remedies) Bill, the Citizens Advice Bureaux report a substantial increase in enquiries concerning employment law and discrimination. In 1992-93, CAB dealt with 882,257 employment-related queries, a 31 per cent increase over five years. A significant number of cases involved discrimination, prompting a report, "Unequal Opportunities — CAB Evidence on Discrimination in Employment."

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Quitting the Pitch

I remember hearing an in-house lawyer gleefully release the home truths he was about to spit in the face of his boss on his last day at the office. Fortunately, he was talked out of it. Within two years, his new company was taken over by his former employer and he found himself back with his old boss once again.

The same need for foresight applies to the process of job applications. In the late 1980's, when jobs were there for the taking, not all candidates showed due consideration towards firms which made them an offer. Some would fail to respond or would not even hide the fact that they were playing one firm off against another. That came the re-education, and they stayed put for the next three years. Now that the market is improving they are tempted to move again, but they are coming up against an unexpected problem. Firms of solicitors are not yet so desperately short of staff that a candidate's perceived discounting three or four years ago will be overlooked.

This problem can affect any candidate. It is most acute for specialists in a narrow area of law practised by only a small number of firms. In no time at all — just one 'off-day' — they can queer their pitch for years to come.

All firms into the job-market are exercises in self-exposure, bringing candidates before a select assortment of lawyers with decisive influence over their career prospects. Seen in this light, dealings with prospective employers should be handled with diplomacy, particularly when any offers are being rejected.

Michael Chambers

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Art as religion: the US choreographer Bill T. Jones brings his company to London

The good released from Pandora's box

Rose Garrard's *Reconstructing the 'man'-stream* has Michelangelo's Adam cradling the bronze and ivory casket containing the evils of the world created (right) by Harry Bates for his *Pandora* to hold.

● Rose Garrard: *Living Archives at the Cornerhouse, Manchester* (061-228 2463) until April 24; *British Sculpture at the Tate* (071-887 8000) until August

CONCERTS: The Festival of American Music continues in moods ranging from exuberant to ambient, while the Bournemouth SO prepares for the States

No spectacle in Glass

items on either side of the interval: Charles Ives's *Second Symphony* (replacing the originally scheduled *Fourth*, but hardly any more of a repertory piece) and Philip Glass's *Violin Concerto* of 1987, receiving its UK premiere surprisingly late in the day for such a cult composer.

Ives's *Second* is one of the

Many

Bronfman's performance of the Rachmaninov was as brash as the symphony, for all its raging, had been thoughtful in its re-creation.

The piece was certainly unashamedly, even desperately, written as a showpiece for Rachmaninov's own first wage-earning American tour in 1909; but the point does not have to be laboured.

For all its endless parade of virtuoso pianism and vibrant orchestral colours, the work can reveal an inwardness and a subtlety if it is given half a chance.

Bronfman, alas, preferred to deny it this opportunity and, a marvellously hushed opening apart, played it for maximum volume, maximum melodrama and maximum effect.

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Trailing his customary threads of spindly sound, Gidon Kremer nobly concealed his known disenchantment with the work behind a facade of furrowed-brow concentration.

Shostakovich's Eighth offers the orchestra plenty of opportunities to show off, and is certainly one of the noisiest the composer ever wrote. But this great war requiem is no mere rabble-rouser, as Litton made clear in his deep-breathed and strongly paced

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DANCE: Bill T. Jones tells John Percival about his fears on returning to London; and children by the sea

Dancing with his ghosts

Bill T. Jones looks too tough to be easily frightened, but says that he is "a little scared" about bringing his company back to London (it opens at Sadler's Wells Theatre tonight). He reckons that "you're only as good as your last piece". However, the fact that Jones is one of the few choreographers since Twyla Tharp to have made the breakthrough to public recognition should alleviate his fears: his reputation precedes him.

More to the point, however, London holds "a lot of ghosts" for him: memories of earlier visits with his on and offstage partner Arnie Zane. They bowed over a small but enthusiastic audience at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in 1981, dancing two duets in their inimitable and astonishing style. There we saw for the first time this big, black man, who combined great strength with gentleness, and his small, white partner who could have looked weedy but for his extraordinary sharpness and attack.

Somehow they meshed so beautifully together that you would have guessed they were lovers even if they had not proudly announced it. And the relationship in their dances, surprisingly, was one of parallels as well as contrasts; although so different in physique, they could match each other in their double-work.

Later visits found them at progressively more important theatres — the Riverside, then the Wells — at first with a small supporting group, but one which grew into a real company. But in 1988 Zane died of an AIDS-related illness, and this is the company's first time here without him, although it did have a big success at last year's Edinburgh Festival.

The name is still the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company, and this is not just through sentiment on Jones's part. Zane, he says, was always more interested in directing, and Jones tries to follow his precepts still. They met on St Patrick's Day "around 1971". Zane's specialties then were photography and art history. Jones had already been won over to dancing.

Born in Florida in 1952, he was reared in upstate New York; his father, an itinerant labourer, must have had an odd sense of humour and named the boy after Bill Tass, a Governor of Georgia notorious for his hostility to blacks.

Because his family eventually

settled in the north, Jones got a better education than his older siblings. He was in college studying to be an actor and keen on athletics, when one day his niece said, "Don't go to track practice this afternoon, come to dance class". A dancer from Pearl Primus's black company was teaching — and so his real career began, although Jones adds that he was already pre-conditioned. "I was working in the library, and spent hours in the racks reading about Mary Wigman and Martha Graham. I was fascinated by the pictures of Martha's *Letter to the World*. I couldn't imagine my body making those shapes."

He quickly began to get into the dance world because "young male dancers were always in short supply in the early 1970s", and found himself in circles where everyone



Jones: "This is my religion"

was trying to dislodge the "classical moderns"; it was phillistine to like Graham". He moved for a while to San Francisco because "New York was not where serious work was being made".

Zane got pulled into dance, but reluctantly because "he felt he was a little funny looking. He was really more of a performance artist." One early piece involved Zane standing on a chair while Caruso's recorded voice sang "La donna è mobile", and falling off at the high notes, whereupon some of his photographs, displayed around him, rearranged themselves.

But Zane became avid about yoga and about the new technique of contact improvisation by which two moving bodies took their cues from each other as they touched. And it was Zane who impelled Jones into

action. "Don't just dream about doing things," he would urge, "and don't try to make it perfect before you do it. Do it, then critique it and make it better."

So Zane was the one who would always come up with an idea, a prop, a gesture to use (once they went to see *Sleeping Beauty* for a birthday treat, done by the National Ballet of Washington, and seized on the way the prince pulls Aurora up from the floor, the awkwardness of the balance, as something they could use in a dance). For their frequent pieces that involved talking, Zane would remember and type out what they had said in rehearsal. "He always had a strong aesthetic," Jones says. "He knew what things should look like."

Knowing how upset his partner would be when he died, "Arnie even said to me, 'You can dissolve the company if you like', but Jones wanted to keep it as 'a living memorial'. Zane's precepts and some of his choreography remain, and Jones says: "I have to wear more hats now that I don't have him there to deal with the personal diplomacy and the organisation". But he has found ways to involve some of the dancers in the act of creation — "I'm not the centre of my movement world any more". He dances less often, and accepts more choreographic work outside the company. "I have to delegate."

Jones says he sees himself as a poet, and that "I didn't get into dance to show how beautifully my body could move". He reckons that "one of the hallmark struggles of modern dance is finding movement". Just as his family had always told stories using words and gestures, so even in his most abstract pieces he has something to say.

Inevitably, since Zane's death, grief and mourning have more often been his subject matter, but it is not just a personal thing. Zane's death led Jones to a greater commitment to the world about him, and he sees himself as tackling "the late 20th century's subtle hum of concern around the issue of mortality".

For Jones, making dance is "a great privilege. This is my religion, this thing that I do. To organise a chaotic universe is what religion is all about. I love to watch dance; I love to make something. But my muse is never purely dance."

Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company is at Sadler's Wells 071-278 9910 from tonight until April 16.



Bill T. Jones gets into full flight: "I love to make something. But my muse is never purely dance"

Underage and over here

Perth City Ballet
Cliffs Pavilion,
Southend

ARE you tired of the sometimes peculiar little Russian companies which keep trotting round the regional theatres of Britain? Well, here for a change is a very peculiar Australian company, John Percival writes.

The chief peculiarity of Perth City Ballet becomes apparent within a few minutes of the curtain going up. Not at once, because *Gunga* begins with figures mysteriously silhouetted amid swirling mists. But once the lights come on, we notice that the boy dancing a solo is extremely young, and that the one who soon joins him looks not much older. The same is true of the little girl and her companion who take over for the next episode.

As the show goes on, without any sign of really mature dancers, the impression is that this must surely be basically a school company, made up of pupils and perhaps recent graduates. The publicity somehow fails to make any mention of this, which seems reprehensibly forgetful of the management. Some might say downright misleading.

The other peculiarity lies in the choreography, all by the company's founder and director, Diana Waldron. "The innovative dance style" claimed in their handbills turns out to be the application of naive, simple and repetitive groups of ballet steps to Australian themes.

Native Australian legend provides the subject but not the style of *Gunga*, in which Nari Lees, as the heroine who conquers her fear of love, looks too much like one of Edward Lear's young photographic models for comfort. On the beach is a would-be comic romp, and *Picnic at Hanging Rock* is a cross between schoolgirl japes and a pseudo-Giselle finale.

The dancers are not bad, given the limitations of their inexperience and the material; but to think that they are ready for international touring is decidedly optimistic.

OPERA: In Paris, Kraus brings Werther to his rightful home

The true voice of the poet

Werther
Opéra Comique,
Paris



Alfredo Kraus as the doomed and haughty Werther

Alfredo Kraus's Werther is one of the great operatic interpretations of our time. It is briefly on display in Paris this month. Massenet's account of the romantic poet more than half in love with death was the work Kraus chose for his inexpressibly belated Paris stage debut in 1984. Then he sang it at the Opéra. Now it has returned to its proper home, the Opéra Comique, the ornately intimate turn-of-the-century house where Werther had his first French performance just over a hundred years ago.

Kraus is one of the supreme

singers of the French 19th-century repertoire and Massenet in particular. His Werther stands as a symbol of the Romantic Movement. Goethe's poet doomed and haughty, supremely egotistical, who sees everything as an extension of his own image. It

eminently forgettable production is the way he puts Kraus and Werther's thoughts centre-stage. Massenet accords Werther a big aria in each of the first three acts, as well as the death scene as a *bonne bouche*. Kraus addresses them all to the audience in a display of seamless, lyrical singing rarely encountered. The phrasing is immaculate, with each line of verse woven into its partner. The *vers d'Ossian* in Act III brought the performance to a standstill.

Over the years Kraus has appeared with some mediocre Charlottes. But at the Opéra Comique, Martine Dupuy is a Werther lady of class. Indeed, she is almost a Gainsborough lady, with her bearing cool and upright beneath her wide-brimmed flowered hat. Doelike, she shies away from Werther's early advances, avoiding all physical contact until she succumbs on hearing those verses of Ossian. In every way she is a worthy partner.

Jean-Philippe's jovial Bailiff is the best of the rest of the cast. It is difficult to make much of Charlotte's tedious husband, Albert, and Didier Henry never sounded like succeeding. Catherine Dubose's Sophie is the conventional chirpy songbird.

The sets by Veronique Seymat and Gérard Blin come from the Nancy Opéra and should be sent back there without delay. They have encased Werther in a series of bare concrete walls, which look as though they been heven from London's South Bank. No sense of the changing seasons, which is crucial to the modest plot of Werther. Act III is especially ludicrous: a piano, a couple of Ossian books and a pistol case are plunked in limbo. The French Symphony Orchestra under Laurent Petitgand too often sounded raw.

But never mind the show-case. Kraus is back at the Opéra Comique, where he triumphed eight years ago in Donizetti's *La Fille du régiment* and Dupuy is at his side for two more performances on April 17 and 20.

JOHN HIGGINS

WHATEVER NEXT?!

On Friday 15th April, at 7.30pm, a PC salesman and a PR girl will attempt their version of Mozart's concerto for two pianos.

WHAT WILL THIS SOUND LIKE?

Come and judge for yourself!

SOLOISTS:

Theo Lieven,
Chairman of Vobis Microcomputer,
and Louise Price, Arts Marketeer

accompanied by
The London Amadeus Orchestra
Conducted by Charles Hazlewood
"Acid box" - The Observer

Also on the programme:
Eine Kleine Nachtmusik K525
Symphony No. 40 in G Minor K550

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Vobis Microcomputer and Dixons Stores Group

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The proceeds of the concert
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WIN the ultimate holiday with THE CONUNDRUM

the ultimate brain teaser

You have now reached the very last round of Conundrum. If you have solved all the clues until now, congratulations are in order!

The answer to today's final Conundrum is hidden somewhere in today's issue of *The Times*. When you think you know what it is, note it on your Conundrum coupon with your previous answers.

Then, the final Conundrum! Your twelve letters and numbers must now be reworked to form the recognisable competition winning phrase. Join them down in the spaces provided on the entry form. Once you have crossed that final hurdle get your entry off to us - and keep your fingers crossed to see if you have won!

Necker Island

Fringed with immaculate beaches and surrounded by the clearest blue Caribbean seas, Necker Island is Richard Branson's personal holiday hideaway.

The world has been scoured for the finest furniture and fittings and the house has been stocked with every possible facility, every imaginable diversion. There are also spa baths, a pool, two floodlit tennis courts, a vast amount of sports equipment and a small flotilla of watercraft - not to mention a staff of 20 on hand to bring a new definition to indulgence.

Everything, including the Virgin Atlantic Upper Class return flights, arrival on the island's own helipad, the food, the drinks and the watersports, is all free for the winner and five friends.

TODAY'S CONUNDRUM

The first half of a duo drawing comic relief from the law.

5th letter.

Back issues are available. Backdated copies of *The Times* are available from: *The Times* Backdated Dept., PO Box 479, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9PL. Tel: 071-762 6137.

HERE ARE THE LAST 11 CONUNDRUM CLUES

- MON 1. A word which describes a person who is very nervous and who is often found in a state of panic.
- TUE 2. The name of a famous British composer who died in 1907.
- WED 3. A word which describes a person who is very nervous and who is often found in a state of panic.
- THU 4. A word which describes a person who is very nervous and who is often found in a state of panic.
- FRI 5. A word which describes a person who is very nervous and who is often found in a state of panic.
- SAT 6. A word which describes a person who is very nervous and who is often found in a state of panic.
- SUN 7. A word which describes a person who is very nervous and who is often found in a state of panic.
- MON 8. A word which describes a person who is very nervous and who is often found in a state of panic.
- TUE 9. A word which describes a person who is very nervous and who is often found in a state of panic.
- FRI 10. A word which describes a person who is very nervous and who is often found in a state of panic.
- MON 11. A word which describes a person who is very nervous and who is often found in a state of panic.

ENTRY FORM

THE CONUNDRUM

Send your entry for: *The Times* Conundrum Competition, PO Box 223, Minkham, Surrey, GU4 1YF to arrive no later than 20th April 1994.

Day 1 Day 2 Day 3 Day 4 Day 5 Day 6 Day 7 Day 8 Day 9 Day 10 Day 11 Day 12

The Conundrum contains competition winning phrase is...

The first correct entry drawn after the closing date wins. The competition is open to all UK residents aged 18 and over only. The winner will be notified in writing. Normal *Times* Newspaper Competition rules apply. Multiple entries accepted. No cash alternative.

THE TIMES TUESDAY APRIL 12 1994

TELEVISION AND RADIO 43

BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast (20057)
- 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (20057)
- 9.05 Kilroy. Topical studio discussion (20057)
- 10.00 News (20057) regional news and weather (20057)
- 10.30 Good Morning... with Anne and Nick Weekley magazine (20057)
- 12.15 Pebble Mill. With Judi Spiers (20057) 12.55 Regional news and weather (20057)
- 1.00 One O'Clock News (20057) and weather (20057)
- 1.30 Neighbours (20057) (20057)
- 1.50 The Great British Quiz with Janice Long (20057)
- 2.15 FILM: Columbo: Try and Catch Me. An elderly crime writer recalls his nephew of killing the famous niece. Peter Falk as the strapping detective investigates (20057)
- 3.25 Tom and Jerry's Greatest Hits (20057) 3.50 Noddy (20057) 4.00 Marmite Marlowe investigations (20057) (20057) 4.30 Sci-fi adventure serial. Sean is puzzled by a bicycle bell that sounds like a foghorn (20057) 4.35 The Addams Family. Cartoon (20057) (20057)
- 5.00 Newsround (20057)

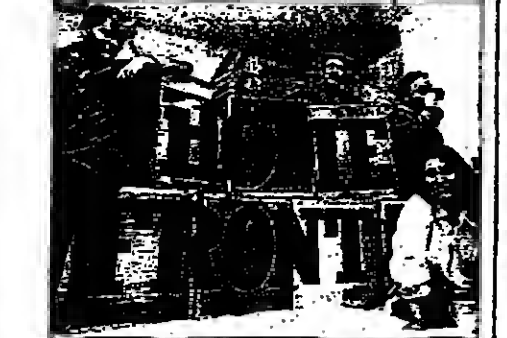


Isabelle Steel makes a birthday wish (5.10pm)

- 5.10 The Lowdown. A look at the way children celebrate their birthdays, including some touching stories about the meaning of birthdays. (20057) (20057)
- 5.35 Neighbours (20057) (20057)
- 6.00 Six O'Clock News (20057) and weather (20057)
- 6.30 Regional news magazines (20057)
- 7.00 The Brittas Empire. News of Gordon Brittas' death reaches Whistbury Leisure Centre, where everyone takes it surprisingly well. But is he really dead? (20057) (20057)
- 7.30 EastEnders. (20057) (20057)
- 8.00 How Do You Do That? Behind the scenes of television and film. Featuring Desmond Lynam (20057) (20057)
- 8.45 Points of View presented by Anne Robinson (20057) (20057)
- 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (20057) regional news and weather (20057)
- 9.30 Keeping Up Appearances. Hyacinth's search for perfection is a source of annoyance to her husband and neighbour (20057) (20057)
- 10.00 Omnibus: Gielgud - Scenes From Nineteen Decades. (20057) (20057)
- 11.00 FILM: Arthur (1981) starring Dudley Moore as a spoiled millionaire who must choose between continued wealth in an arranged marriage and true love with a waitress. Sir John Gielgud won an Oscar for his performance as Moore's valet. Directed by Steve Gordon, who died the following year (20057)
- 12.45-3.45 BBC Select: Executive Business Club (20057) 3.15 BBC Select: Legal Network Television (20057)

BBC2

- 6.00 Breakfast News (20057)
- 8.15 Mahatma Ghandi. A profile of William Carey, a founder of the Baptist Missionary Society (20057) (20057) 8.25 Consuming Passions (20057)
- 9.00 FILM: Corned (1945, b/w). High-tension drama, with Dick Powell tracking the Nazi who killed his wife. Directed by Edward Dmytryk (20057)
- 10.40 Tower Portraits. Barnard Castle, Co. Durham (20057)
- 10.50 FILM: The Gazebo (1959, b/w). Black comedy starring Glenn Ford, directed by George Marshall (20057)
- 12.30 Glynis Clouston. Today he stops in Xanten for beer and smoked fish (20057)
- 12.40 FILM: Streets (20057) 1.20 Postman Pat (20057) 1.30 Marmite Marlowe investigations (20057) (20057) 1.35 Simon King explores Cornwall lakes (20057)
- 2.00 News (20057) and weather followed by Harvesters of Honey. A expedition to gather honey and bees from the Himalayan honey bee (20057) 2.30 See Hear! (20057) (20057)
- 3.00 News (20057) and weather followed by Westminster Live (20057) 3.50 News (20057) regional news and weather (20057)
- 4.00 Today's the Day. Quiz (20057)
- 4.30 People of the Valley. Welsh language drama series. With English subtitles (20057) (20057)
- 5.00 The Munch Bunch. An investigation into Munchausen's Syndrome (20057)
- 5.30 Gardeners' World includes a visit to the Solihull gardens on Treow (20057) (20057)
- 6.00 FILM: The Cat in the Hat (1952). Classic swashbuckler starring Burt Lancaster, directed by Robert Siodmak (20057)
- 7.40 Education Special: Bullying. (20057) (20057)

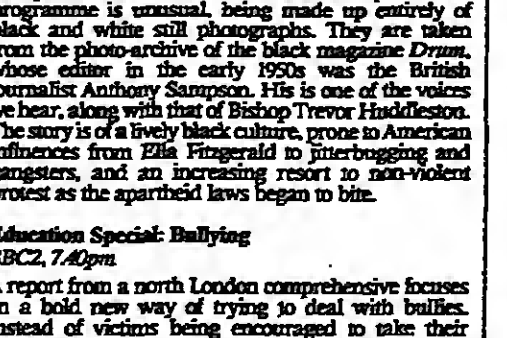


Quentin, right, on interior design (6.30pm)

- 8.30 Home Front. Home decorating and furnishings presented by Caroline Quentin (20057)
- 9.00 Quantum Leap. Time traveler Sam lands up in the shoes of a man about to sacrifice his bride in a bizarre ritual. (20057) (20057)
- 9.45 40 Minutes: Living in a Boomer Time. The stories of two victims of the recession. (20057) (20057)
- 10.30 Newsnight. (20057) (20057)
- 11.15 The Late Show - India Week. A profile of the Muslim novelist Taslima Nasreen (20057)
- 11.55 Weather (20057) 12.00 Technology (20057) 12.25 Computer-Aided Design (20057) Ends 1.30

Carlton

- 6.00 GMTV (20057)
- 9.25 Cross Words. Tom O'Connor hosts the crossword game show (20057) 9.55 London Today (20057) and weather (20057)
- 10.00 The Time... The Place... Live studio discussion (20057)
- 10.35 This Morning Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan present the morning magazine (20057) 12.20 London Today (20057) and weather (20057)
- 12.30 News (20057) and weather (20057)
- 12.55 Emmerdale (20057) (20057)
- 1.25 Home and Away. (20057) (20057)
- 1.55 It's a Vets' Life. A look at the work of an animal dentist in Harrogate and an operation on an overweight dog. In pet's corner Jimmy McKay considers snakes. (20057) (20057)
- 2.25 A Country Practice. Medical drama set in the Australian outback (20057) 2.50 The Young Doctors. Hospital drama (20057)
- 3.20 ITN News headlines (20057) (20057) 3.25 London Today (20057) and weather (20057)
- 3.30 Alphabet Castle (20057) 3.40 Tots TV (20057) (20057) 3.50 Twinkl the Dream Being (20057) 4.00 Taz-Mania (20057) 4.15 Mike and Angelo (20057) 4.40 Finders Keepers. Soapstock game show (20057) (20057)
- 5.10 Home and Away (20057) (20057)
- 5.40 Early Evening News (20057) and weather (20057)
- 6.00 London Tonight (20057) and weather (20057)
- 6.55 Emmerdale. (20057) (20057)
- 7.25 The European Match - Live. Arsenal v Paris St Germain (20057) 7.55 The European Cup Winners' Cup semi-final. Presented by Matthew Lorenzo with commentary from Brian Moore (20057)



Sir John Gielgud, a birthday knight (BBC1, 10.00pm)

- Omnibus: Gielgud - Scenes from Nineteen Decades. BBC1, 10.00pm (Scotland: Thursday, 11.25pm)
- Kenneth Branagh narrates a nineteenth birthday tribute to Sir John Gielgud. If the film is more a celebration than a critical appraisal, that is what the occasion demands. A neat assembly of interviews, film clips and audio material traces the great man's progress through more than 70 years on stage, and shorter careers in the cinema and on television. Gielgud may have been with the theatrical version of a silver spoon and he may have been blessed with a sublime voice, but as the programme keeps making clear, he has never strayed from taking chances. In the 1960s he took on the avant-garde in plays by Stoppard and Pinter. More recently he appeared in Prospero's Books. As Gielgud says, he gets younger and bolder and thanks to his talent usually gets away with it.
- Without Walls: Winds of Change. Channel 4, 9.00pm
- A documentary from South Africa charts the experience of the country's black population during the first decade of apartheid, culminating in the Sharpeville massacre of 1960. The visual part of the programme is unusual, featuring a mixture of black and white still photographs. They are taken from the photo-archives of the black magazine Drum, whose editor in the early 1950s was the British journalist Anthony Sampson. His is one of the voices we hear, along with that of Bishop Trevor Huddleston. The story is of gritty black culture, protest and African influences from Ella Fitzgerald to jazz and gangsters, and an increasing resort to non-violent protest as the apartheid laws began to bite.
- Education Special: Bullying. BBC2, 7.40pm
- A report from a north London comprehensive focuses on a bold new way of trying to deal with bullies. A group of victims being encouraged to take their troubles to teachers, or even their parents, they pour them out to their fellow pupils. The theory is that young people are more likely to trust their peers than adults. So a number of children in the school are appointed as counsellors, with the task of hearing the two sides to the argument and trying to mediate between them. The first reaction may be that such a system is naive, but on the other hand, the theory is expecting a lot of 12 to 15-year-olds to fulfil an adult role. The cases followed in the film, however, offer encouraging signs that the experiment is working.
- Network First: The War Against the Mafia. ITV, 10.40pm
- Part two of the story of the New York Mafia opens in 1976 when Paul Castellano takes over the Gambino family. It concludes nine years later when Castellano is shot dead in Manhattan. The intervening story runs into two episodes. On the one hand, the Mafia's infighting over the peak of Mafia power, with the mob infiltrating key areas of the American economy and creating off millions of dollars. At the same time the FBI is at last waking up to the racket and, helped by legislation and advanced bugging equipment, is starting to hit back. Piled together with the help of old cops and former mobsters, the series continues to have a gruesome fascination.
- Peter Waymark

Channel 4

- 6.35 Star Street (20057)
- 7.00 The Big Breakfast (20057)
- 9.00 King Arthur and the Knights of Justice (20057) 9.30 Sharky and George (20057)
- 9.55 California Dreams (20057)
- 10.20 The Adventures of Super Mario Brothers (20057) 10.40 Gamesmaster Computer games magazine (20057) (20057)
- 11.10 The Fender Australian children's drama (20057) (20057) 11.35 The Legend of White Fang. Animated adventures based on Jack London's story (20057) (20057)
- 12.00 House to House. Maya Even presents interviews with key politicians (20057)
- 12.30 Sesame Street. Early learning series (20057) (20057) 12.50 Whiggle Animation (20057)
- 2.00 Omnibus: Paints on Holiday. Alyn Crawshaw visits Mayfair and the homes and farms in the market square of Soho (20057) (20057)
- 2.25 Channel 4 Racing from Newmarket. Brough Scott introduces live coverage of the 2.35, 3.05, 3.40 and 4.15 races (20057)
- 4.30 Finesse to One. (20057) (20057)
- 5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Conversations about the world and why they were dumped. (20057) (20057)
- 5.50 Deputy Dawg. Cartoon (20057)
- 6.00 Batman: The Caped Crusader is up against the Penguin. (20057) (20057)
- 6.30 Phantoms. More American comedy about a teenage tennis prodigy. (20057) (20057)
- 7.00 Channel 4 News (20057) and weather (20057)
- 7.50 Comedy News (20057)
- 8.00 Very Jean. Mike. The first of three programmes about the fashion designer (20057) (20057)
- 8.30 The Brief. Series examining Britain's legal system (20057)



An archive photo of Nelson Mandela (9.00pm)

- 9.00 Without Walls: Winds of Change. (20057) (20057)
- 10.00 FILM: Resurrected (1989). The story of a soldier in the Falklands War who was reported missing and presumed dead. Seven weeks after a memorial service with full military honours, he turned up seemingly to be suffering amnesia. Although the Army doubted his condition, they decided to take no further action against him and he returned home to a hero's welcome. But when he goes back to his regiment, his fellow soldiers won't turn their backs on him. With David Thewlis. Directed by Paul Greengrass (20057)
- 11.40 Animations From The TV Cartoons Studio. Starring with the insects, followed by Damon the Mower, based on a poem by Andrew Marvell, The Flying Men and The Apple, about a little man's unexpected problems in picking an apple. (20057)
- 12.05am Unforgettable. With Love. Natalie Cole performs her father's songs including 'Mona Lisa' and 'Unforgettable' (20057)
- 1.35 Cleaned to Dopehead. The Irish folk group talk about their lives and music (20057) Ends at 2.05

RADIO 1

- FM Stereo and BBC. Alistair Bruce Brookes (FM only) 7.00 Steve Wright in the Morning 9.00 Kevin Greening 12.00 Emma Freud, including at 12.30 12.45pm Newsround 2.00 Marmite Marlowe investigations 3.00 Marmite Marlowe investigations 3.30 Marmite Marlowe investigations 3.50 Marmite Marlowe investigations 4.00 Marmite Marlowe investigations 4.30 Marmite Marlowe investigations 4.45 Marmite Marlowe investigations 5.00 Marmite Marlowe investigations 5.15 Marmite Marlowe investigations 5.30 Marmite Marlowe investigations 5.45 Marmite Marlowe investigations 6.00 Marmite Marlowe investigations 6.15 Marmite Marlowe investigations 6.30 Marmite Marlowe investigations 6.45 Marmite Marlowe investigations 7.00 Marmite Marlowe investigations 7.15 Marmite Marlowe investigations 7.30 Marmite Marlowe investigations 7.45 Marmite Marlowe investigations 8.00 Marmite Marlowe investigations 8.15 Marmite Marlowe investigations 8.30 Marmite Marlowe investigations 8.45 Marmite Marlowe investigations 9.00 Marmite Marlowe 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CRICKET 40

DAY OF RECKONING
FOR ENGLAND
IN BRIDGETOWN

SPORT

TUESDAY APRIL 12 1994

RACING 41
PETER PLAYER
SIGNALS CHANGES
AT NEWMARKET

Graham prepares for test of patience

BY ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

ARSENAL are closer today to the nation's heart than at any time since Herbert Chapman's team supplied seven of the England side against Italy in the "Battle of Highbury" in 1934.

The irony is that, as George Graham's team prepares to make the last stand by a British club in this season's European competition, the latest England squad has just been announced without a single Arsenal name in it, which speaks volumes for the co-operation between the Highbury club and the rulers of Lancaster Gate.

The administrators of the FA Carling Premiership agreed wholeheartedly to postpone Arsenal's match against Wimbledon last Saturday to ensure that the players

were ready for the second leg of the European Cup-Winners' Cup semi-final second leg tonight against Paris Saint-Germain. The first leg ended 1-1.

For England's part, Terry Venables agreed to refrain from calling on Arsenal players for his gathering at Bisham Abbey on April 20, because of the need to play the rearranged game with Wimbledon.

It is therefore incumbent on Arsenal to reach the final and, to do that, they have to overcome the French champions-elect. Paris Saint-Germain will be anything but pushovers. Graham knew that even before the exhilarating encounter in Paris and even before the French were able to announce that Alain Roche, the central defender who missed the first game with a calf injury, is fit for tonight.

Arsenal, too, envisage one change, the return of David Hillier, recovered from the imprint of the studs of Andrea Silenzi after the unsavoury last round in Europe against Torino. Hillier would replace Ian Selley, one of seven players who stand a yellow card away from suspension. The referee, who will be important, is the Dane, Peter Mikkelsen. At 33, he is fit enough to keep up with any pace and well known to John Jensen, the Denmark and Arsenal midfielder player, as a strict but fair arbiter.

If the match is anything like as enterprising as the first leg, there will be no complaints from anyone. Paris Saint-Germain come determined to be only the third French club in 14 encounters to eliminate an English team from Europe: the previous two were Lyons, who beat Tottenham Hotspur in 1968, and

T. Flowers (Blackburn Rovers), A. Cohen (Manchester City), R. Jones (Liverpool), P. Parker (Manchester United), G. Taylor (Manchester United), J. Johnson (Oxford United), N. Rodwell (Aston Villa), G. Hargrove (Sheff Wed), S. Pearce (Nottingham Forest), G. Le Sueur (Blackburn Rovers), D. Anderson (Tottenham Hotspur), R. Lee (Newcastle United), D. Bury (Blackburn Rovers), P. Ince (Manchester United), J. Redknapp (Liverpool), C. Bart-Williams (Sheff Wed), J. Wright (Sheff Wed), D. White (Sheff Wed), M. Le Tissier (Southampton), J. Willock (Blackburn Rovers), A. Shearer (Blackburn Rovers), P. Bardsley (Newcastle United), C. Sutton (Newcastle United), L. Ferdinand (Queens Park Rangers).

Bastia, who knocked out Newcastle United in 1978.

Saint-Germain, surprisingly, lost their seven-month unbeaten record by the heavy score of 3-0 at Nantes a week ago, but they travel unafraid after winning each of their European ties away from home this season, George Weah,

the Liberian striker, scoring the only goal in the last round at Real Madrid.

However, it is the left-winger, David Ginola, who is expected to catch the eye. Graham says of him: "He's one of the best I've seen in Europe this season. I just hope the referee doesn't fall for his theatrical dives. Anyway, Ginola doesn't need to do it."

Graham's prophecy, his warning if you like, is that the spectators will have to stay patient while Arsenal go about their business: "We are wiser, more experienced than when we lost a couple of years ago in this situation to Benfica, but everyone has to realise that for the good of English football, we may have to play a different game from the gung ho style in our league."

Terry Venables continues to demonstrate that, as coach to

England, he is looking for players who can appreciate rather more than the "direct" English game. In a squad chosen for merely training purposes following England's correct withdrawal from the proposed match against Germany in Berlin on Hitler's birthday, Venables has revealed his thinking with some of the new names of his choice.

At the back, there are Richard Johnson, of Oldham Athletic, who impressed in Sunday's FA Cup semi-final against Manchester United, and Neil Ruddock, whom Venables named at Tottenham Hotspur and whose powerful left foot may prove of greater value than was his bully-boy act under Graeme Souness at Liverpool.

Another Liverpool man, Jamie Redknapp, a midfield schemer, is one of four younger players promoted. The strikers, Chris Sutton

and Andy Cole, of Norwich City and Newcastle United respectively, were obvious choices, but Chris Bart-Williams, the Sierra Leone-born forward from Sheffield Wednesday, makes a meteoric leap to the senior international ranks.

Dennis Wise, the Chelsea midfielder player, has another opportunity, under new management, to prove that he can use his head as well as his right foot. Robert Lee is there to justify the faith of the Newcastle United manager, Kevin Keegan, in him and Jason Wilcox is one of four Blackburn Rovers players released from his club to make the most of England training.

That training, Venables promises the clubs, will not be too hard at this "delicate" stage of the season.

Nigeria's new dawn, page 40

McGinlay likely to make debut

Brown makes continuity top priority

BY KEVIN MCCARRA

IN NAMING his party for the friendly against Austria in Vienna on April 20, Craig Brown, the national coach, maintained his attempt to turn the Scotland squad into the footballing equivalent of a maximum security wing.

The players may not be forming an escape committee, but they are incarcerated all the same. The 19-man pool announced yesterday had all been in the squad for last month's 1-0 defeat by Holland.

Brown has trimmed his squad rather than altered it, with Scott Booth, Craig Levein, Andy Gorm and Ally McCoist omitted because of doubts over their fitness. The coach readily admits to a craving for continuity. It is a natural response to the havoc of recent years, when Andy Roxburgh's selections were regularly wrecked by withdrawals.

At that point, there was good reason to believe that any premier division player with a sturdy body and a patient disposition was eventually bound to win a cap. Nowadays, regulations from Fifa, the game's world governing body, ensure that clubs can no longer remove players for frivolous reasons.

Brown wallows in these fresh circumstances. "I told the 23 players last month that they were going to have to play their way out of the squad," he said. "This is the nucleus of the group we will take into the European championship qualifiers."

No Scotland coach, however, can ever be allowed to remain serene for long and Brown must provide reassurance that stability within his pool of players will not slither into stagnation.

With that in mind, he intends a change of emphasis in Vienna, experimenting with younger players, such as Billy McKinnay and Phil O'Donnell, as well as Eoin Jess. The

Aberdeen striker occupies a delicate position in a squad that rarely devises a goal. He was a deft substitute in the match with Holland, but has been nondescript with his club for much of the season.

Brown, though, sounded intent on installing Jess in the national team: "I believe that a change of environment can help overcome any problems he has with goal-scoring or his general form."

"We often say that a transfer gives a player a lift and I hope that transferring jerseys will have the same effect. Only if Jess doesn't do it for the national team will we have cause for concern."

The Scotland coach has

B. Gunn (Norwich City), J. Leighton (Hibernian), S. McQuinn (Aberdeen), C. Hendry (Blackburn Rovers), A. McLaren (Heart of Midlothian), B. Irvine (Aberdeen), T. Boyd (Cardiff), G. Robertson (Rangers), I. Ferguson (Rangers), S. McCall (Rangers), G. McAllister (Leeds United), P. McStay (Cardiff), W. McGinlay (Dundee United), J. Collins (Cardiff), P. O'Donnell (Motherwell), P. Nevin (Rangers), G. Durie (Rangers), E. Jess (Aberdeen), J. McGinlay (Bolton Wanderers).

recently become embroiled in debate over the three-at-the-back system that he favours over the traditional flat-back-four prevalent in Britain. Brown rightly points out that most nations, particularly the successful ones, have a sweep on the payroll.

All the same, the practice of tactics is more relevant than the theory and Scotland have still to prove that can operate the system with verve. In consequence, Brown hopes to have the services of a man with a reputation for manufacturing frequent goalmouth incident. John McGinlay, of Bolton Wanderers, joined the squad last month despite suffering with a virus but ruined

his chances of a debut against Holland by worsening his condition through an insistence on taking part in training while unwell.

The enthusiasm, if not the wisdom, of this impressed Brown and McGinlay is bound to be deployed in Vienna. The national coach said of the 29-year-old: "John is a scorer and he is also bright and a hustler." The preference for McGinlay ensures that there is no place for Duncan Shearer, the former Swindon Town and Blackburn Rovers forward who is top-scoring Scot in the premier division, hitting 25 goals for Aberdeen this season.

Brown speaks warmly of the forward but is still reluctant to pay him the tangible compliment of an international cap. The Scotland squad may become as difficult to enter as it is to leave.

Bayern Munich, the German league leaders, are expected to announce today whether they have clinched a deal to sign Jean-Pierre Papin, the French striker, from AC Milan. Bayern's board met yesterday to discuss the possible transfer of the former Marseilles forward who has become frustrated at Milan, where he has struggled to secure a regular first-team place.

The board is meeting today. We hope to be able to say more about Papin and other matters on Tuesday," a club spokesman said. Papin is reported to have reached a deal with Bayern, who look set to clinch a record thirteenth league title this season and a place in next season's European Cup. The Bayern board was expected to clear up the financial details of the deal on Monday. Papin cost Milan £5.6 million when he signed from Marseille in mid-1992, but has said he believes they would be prepared to sell him for £2.3 million.



Charlotte Bronks, left, with her captain, Gill Burns, alongside, shows her delight as England take control against Russia yesterday

United States make fine start

THE opening rounds of the women's rugby world championship produced big scores yesterday. The highest margin of victory was achieved by the United States, who crushed Sweden 11-0 at Galashiels (Alan Lomax writes).

The Americans, winners of the World Cup in Wales three years ago, are joint-favourites with England to take the championship. England established their credentials with a 66-0 win over Russia at Meggetland.

England showed handling skills of a high standard, ignoring the kicking game and playing entertaining rugby.

The exciting England mid-field combination ran in ten tries against a Russia side that looked unconditioned and unable to compete at this level.

Particularly impressive for England were Helen Harding, the scrum half, whose passing off either hand was accurate and fast, and Claire Vyryan and Jacqui Edwards, the centres, who were constantly involved in attacking moves.

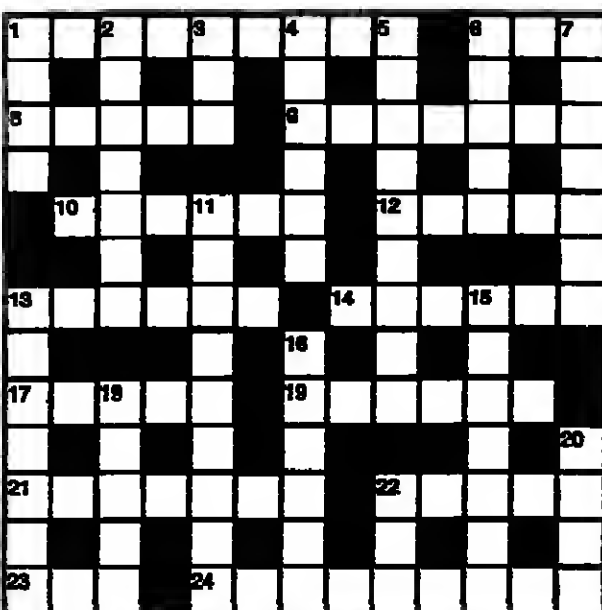
Val Blackett and Annie Cole, the wing, and Gill Burns, the No 8 and captain, scored two tries each. England's other touchdowns came from Jacqui Edwards, Nicola Ponsford, Kathy Genn and Sarah Wenn. Deidre

Mills, the stand-off half, kicked five conversions and two penalty goals.

At Rarburn Place, Wales defeated Canada 11-5. Bethan Jones-Evans, the hooker, scored a try. The other Wales points came from the stand-off half, Amanda Bennett, with a penalty and dropped goal. For Canada, Lynne Leclair, the wing, used her sprint speed to score a try.

France enjoyed a 77-0 victory over Scottish Universities, who have taken the place of Holland, at the West of Scotland ground.

RESULTS: Pool A (at Melrose): United States 11-0 Sweden; Pool B (at Glasgow): England 66-0 Russia; Pool C (at Edinburgh): France 70-0 Scotland; Pool D (at Edinburgh): Scotland 11-0 Canada.



TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 136

- ACROSS
- One accepting delivery (9)
 - Fruit stone (3)
 - Slowly gather (corn, information) (5)
 - Lean out of beef (thigh) (7)
 - Injure by twisting ligaments (6)
 - Performer (5)
 - Long, thin stripe (6)
 - Doctrinal split (6)
 - Portuguese possession in China (5)
 - Difficult to discipline (6)
 - Stuff, gorge (7)
 - Look after (patient) (5)
 - Take (exam) (3)
 - Conceal skin blemish (9)

- DOWN
- Fashion: anger (4)
 - Soft shoe; ivy plant (7)
 - Nature god (3)
 - Make longer (6)
 - Noisily-shed entertainer (3-6)
 - Make mark on (surface) by pressure (5)
 - Maths proposition for proving (7)
 - In a state of decline (2,1,3,3)
 - Instruction to attend court (7)
 - Adriatic coast area: Twelfth Night setting (7)
 - Club for use on green (6)
 - Swindle (5)
 - Clerk's workplace (4)
 - Last in order of long sequence (3)

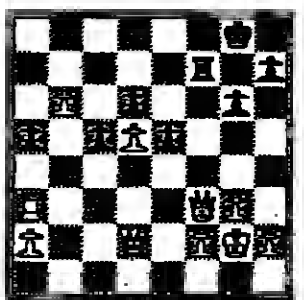
SOLUTION TO NO 135

ACROSS: 7 Mountain bike 9 Hothead 10 Uter 11 Loom 12 Broadway 15 Trespas 17 Java 19 Loser 21 Ukulele 22 Safe as houses
DOWN: 1 Mortgage 2 Anger 3 Wander 4 Insular 5 Diet 6 Pearty Gates 8 Ribana 13 Weakened 14 Sportan 16 Sought 18 Sun up 20 Soft

Today's position is from the game Nemet - Hendricks, Dieren 1988. White's passed pawn on b6 is the key to this position. How does he engineer its advance?

Solution, page 40

Raymond Keene, page 7



By Philip Howard

VAPULATION
a. Sweating profusely
b. An Anglo-Norman measure of land
c. Flogging
YLANG-YLANG
a. A perfume tree
b. A Malaysian rickshaw
c. Thonged shoes

APORIA
a. A skin disease
b. Not knowing where to begin
c. A harbour jetty
BELLIBONE
a. Wall of the lower intestine
b. A tenor bell
c. A pretty woman
Answers on page 40

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